BUSINESS / B1

Telecom price dispute: Compete, don't whine, Smart tells off Globe

SPORTS / A25

Red Bull fined P500,000 for PBA game walkout

BUSINESS / B3

Daughter of taipan Al Yuchengco quits family holding firm

2BU! / C2

Welcome back Superman: A guide to some of best comics on Man of Steel

OFWs remit billions of dollars but skip banks

BILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN REMITTANCES BY maids and other migrant workers employed in Asia's wealthier economies bypass the region's banking systems, according to an Asian Development Bank study released yesterday.

The Manila-based ADB said remittances averaging $100 to $500 a month per guest worker could be leveraged as a financial tool in developing labor-exporting countries if the funds were chan-

OFWS REMIT/ A15

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS
Wednesday, June 28, 2006 ★★ 5 sections / Vol. 21 / No. 200 P18 website: www.inq7.net

World Cup fever leaves GMA cooling her heels

By Armand Nocum

SWERTI!
NABALA-
TOHAN!!!

ROME (Via PLDT)—PRESIdent Macapagal-Arroyo got caught in World Cup fever yesterday and had to wait for 30 minutes before she could see Italian Prime Minister Romano Prodi.

WORLD CUP/ A17

'Pope knows about Garci'

Bishop explains 'well done' applies only to death penalty abolition

Dark horse emerges in race for new PNP chief

By Luige A. del Puerto

WHO WILL SUCCEED DIRECtor General Arturo Lomibao as chief of the 115,000-strong Philippine National Police?

It appears to be a toss-up between the two most senior PNP officers, but lately, the name of a third contender has emerged.

Director Servando Hizon, chief of the Directorate for Comptrollership, is the dark horse in the race for one of the most coveted posts in the government, according to independent sources at PNP headquarters in Camp Crame, Quezon City.

Like Deputy Director General Oscar Calderon, deputy chief for administration and the PNP's second in command, Hizon is a member of Philippine Military Academy Class of 1973.

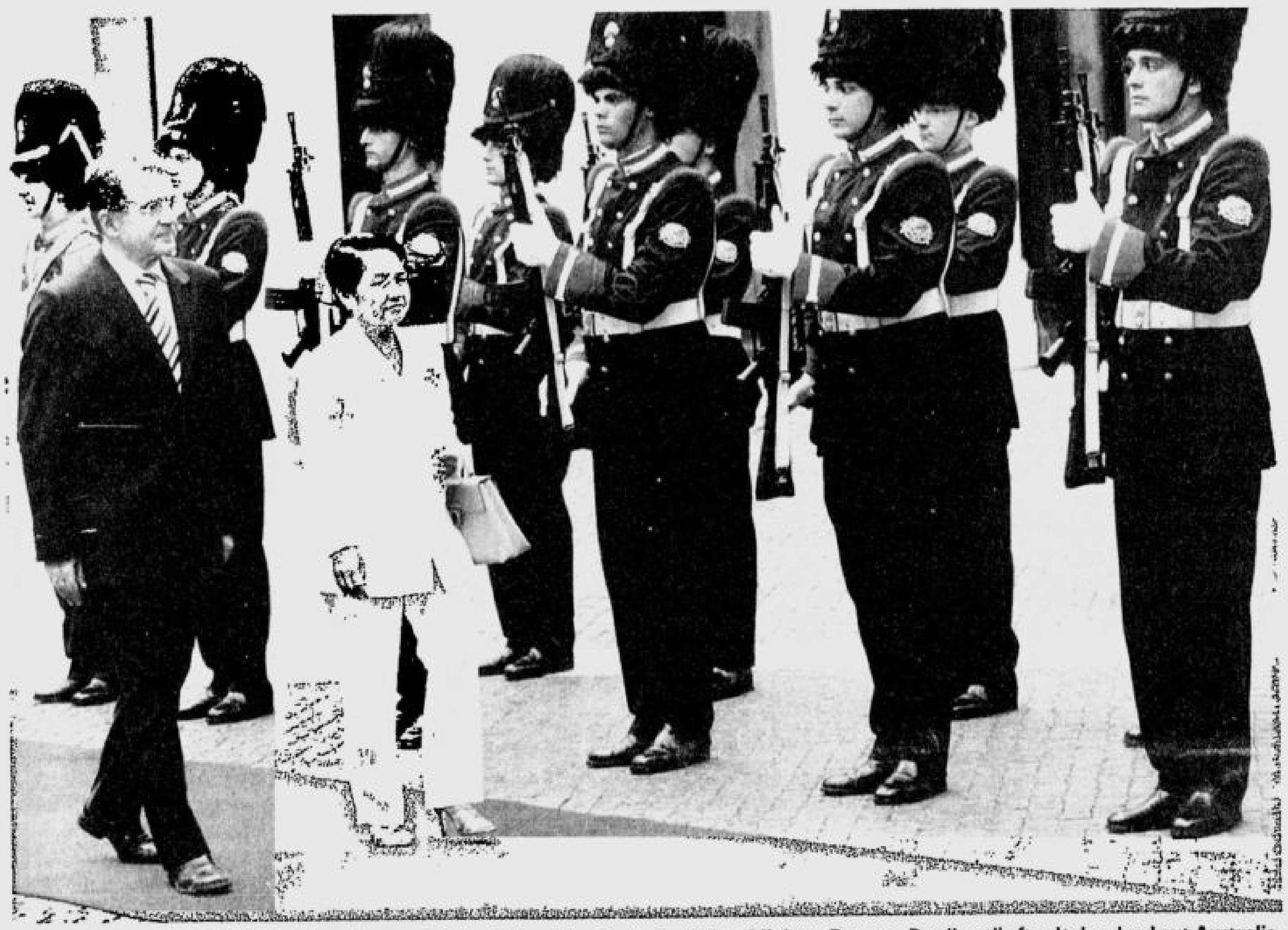
The other front-runner is Deputy Director General Avelino Razon Jr., deputy chief for operations and the third highest police official, who graduated from the PMA in 1974.

At least three ranking PNP officials claimed in separate interviews with the INQUIRER that Hizon "is the one being pushed" by Lomibao as his successor when he retires on July 5.

"He's the chief PNP's bet," one of them said.

All the officers spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitive nature of the issue.

DARK HORSE/ A6



WELL WORTH THE WAIT: President Arroyo didn't mind waiting for Italian Prime Minister Romano Prodi until after Italy edged out Australia for the day's soccer spectacle. When they finally sat down for their one-on-one meeting, the euphoric PM gave in to most of Ms Arroyo's requests to benefit the OFWs in Italy. Here, Prodi escorts Ms Arroyo upon her arrival at the Palazzo Chigi in Rome. MALACANANG PHOTO

By Christian V. Esguerra, Armand Nocum and Christine O. Avendaño

THE PAT ON THE BACK and the words of encouragement Pope Benedict XVI gave President President Macapagal-Arroyo at the Vatican on Monday drew opposing interpretations from Ms Arroyo's supporters and critics.

Archbishop Oscar Cruz advised the President and her allies not to read anything beyond Benedict's "well done" statement.

Cruz said it was merely a reaction to the country's abolition of the death penalty law, a measure that the Catholic Church was vehemently against.

"But it's incongruent for the Holy Father to say she's doing a good job, what with all the scandals happening left and right, graft and corruption, the termination of lives even of religious personalities," he said.

Buoyed by the commendation from the Pontiff, Ms Arroyo vowed to implement her policies and programs despite opposition to some of them.

"I will not be deterred and I will continue with the path," the President said after her meeting with the Pope, who she said was "supportive" of her propoor policies.

She was replying to a question about her "discernment" following the 20-minute meeting.

Ms Arroyo earlier said that she had told the Pope about her reform initiatives and efforts to

POPE/ A17

Oliver strikes again; Tito files case, too

By Philip C. Tubeza

OLIVER LOZANO STRIKES AGAIN.

The 66-year-old lawyer sent a notice yesterday to the office of Speaker Jose de Venecia that he was reviving the impeachment complaint he had filed last year against President Macapagal-Arroyo which was killed for lack of substance.

The notice was received at 7:20 a.m., about 70 minutes before former Vice President Teofisto Guingona filed his own case against Ms Arroyo. His son, Rep. Teofisto Guingona III, promptly endorsed it, a requirement for official cognizance.

On Monday, anti-Arroyo forces brought a new case in the House of Representatives seeking to oust Ms Arroyo for alleged culpable violation of the Constitution, graft and corruption and abuse of authority in connection with claims she rigged the 2004 election.

They anti-Arroyo group had gone on an overnight prayer vigil at the Batasan complex just to make sure they were first off the block with their complaint.

The Constitution calls on Congress to consider only one impeachment case a year against the President, practically turning the initiative into a horse race.

Because the opposition obviously wasn't certain when the

OLIVER/ A16

'Talong,' banana in sex ed classes

By Christian V. Esguerra and Alcuin Papa

ONE TEXTBOOK REQUIRES Grade 5 pupils at an elementary school in Pampanga to bring condoms along with an eggplant (*talong*), cucumber or banana.

The lesson is reproductive health and the children are to be taught how to use the contraceptive device properly with either fruit or vegetables resembling the male sex organ.

Another module asks female freshmen in high school what to do about an adulterous husband.

One choice listed is *"patayin ang asawa habang natutulog"* (kill him while he's sleeping).

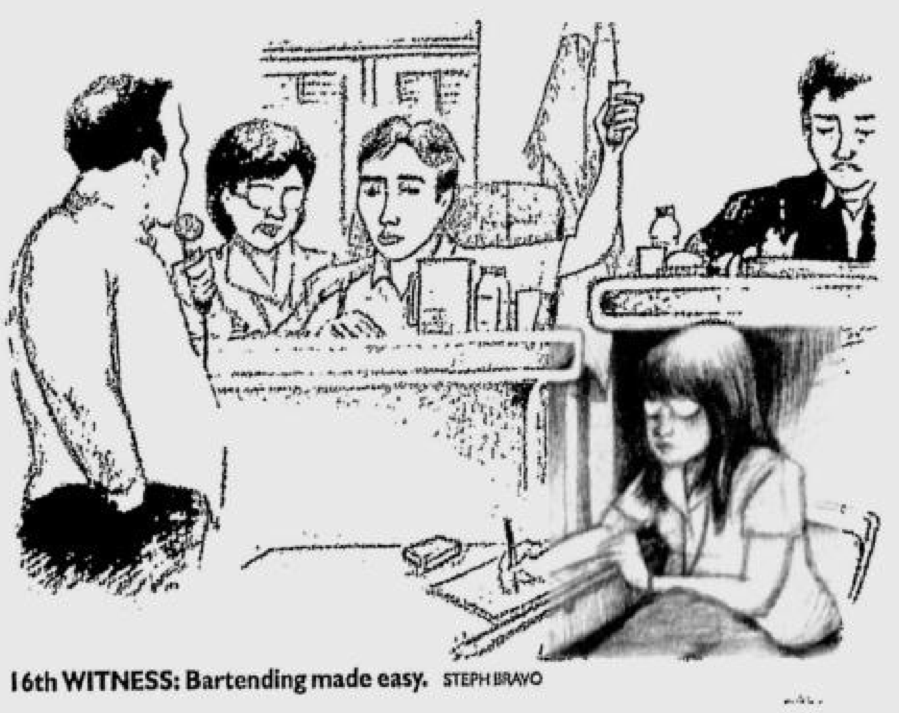
Still another lesson defines safe sex as protected sex, meaning with the use of contraceptives. Sex is "safer" when it's between two men using condoms. For sure, no one will get pregnant even if the rubber breaks.

So what's wrong with the controversial sex education modules of the Department of Education?

"Even the most liberal person

'TALONG'/ A5

Subic bartender: Lessons on cocktails



16th WITNESS: Bartending made easy. STEPH BRAVO

By Volt Contreras and Tarra V. Quismundo

FOR TWO HOURS YESTERDAY, THE SUBIC RAPE trial sounded like a crash course in cocktail mixing.

Lawyers for complainant "Nicole" made a bartender state the "alcohol content" of the various drinks she had taken at the Neptune Club, to bolster their contention that she was too drunk to have agreed to sex with one of the four accused US Marines.

But after prosecutors pointed out how strong Nicole's drinks were, defense lawyers—who contend she was sober enough to have consented to sex—took note of "how much ice" usually went into each glass.

Roger Sanidad, 25, brought with him to the stand sample glasses, jiggers, a pitcher and a Neptune menu to demonstrate how concoctions like Vodka Sprite, B52, Singapore Sling, Long Island Iced Tea and Bullfrog were prepared and served at his bar.

These were the drinks that Nicole's stepsister, An-

SUBIC/ A8

Docs trained to spot, report torture cases

By Blanche S. Rivera

NEXT TIME A DOCTOR PRIES into the cause of your bruises or wounds, don't be surprised.

The country's medical practitioners are being trained by human rights advocates to dig deeper into the condition of their patients, some of whom could be victims of torture who are unwilling to report what they had been through.

The Medical Action Group (MAG), composed of health professionals advocating human rights, has conducted workshops among municipal and city health officers, as well as doctors serving in detention centers all over the country, as part of its campaign to encourage the reporting of torture.

"Our objective is to involve them ... We want to deepen their consciousness so they can document and report torture cases to the Commission on Human Rights or to NGOs (nongovernment organizations)," MAG program coordinator Amy Abcede said in a forum.

The role of doctors and health professionals was highlighted by the United Nations as the world celebrated International Day in Support of Victims of Torture on June 26.

DRAMATIZING torture by the United Torture Coalition. RAFFY LERMA

The forum, called "*Biktima ng Torture, Baka Ikaw na Ang Susunod* (A Victim of Torture, You Might be the Next), " gathered representatives from Amnesty International, the United Against

DOCS TRAINED/ A15

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Southern Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms becoming more frequent rains over Eastern Visayas. The rest of the country will have partly cloudy to at times cloudy skies with isolated rainshowers or thunderstorms mostly in the afternoon or evening.

COMPILED BY KATE V. PEDROSO, PDI RESEARCH/04/07/05 SOURCE PAGASA

Metro Manila	Cloudy with Rains	Iloilo/Bacolod	Cloudy with Rains
Baguio	Cloudy with Rains	Roxas	Cloudy with Rains
Tuguegarao	Partly Cloudy	Cebu	Cloudy with Rains
Laoag	Cloudy with Rains	Tacloban	Cloudy with Rains
Clark Zone	Cloudy with Rains	Gen. Santos	Cloudy with Rains
Tagaytay	Cloudy with Rains	Zamboanga	Cloudy with Rains
Legazpi	Cloudy with Rains	Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with Rains
Calapan	Cloudy with Rains	Davao	Cloudy with Rains

Budget compromise proposed

By TJ Burgonio

RETAIN PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARROYO'S spending authority at P1.053 trillion but realign the P64 billion in cuts the Senate made in the proposed national budget to education, health, agriculture, infrastructure and technology.

Sen. Ralph Recto yesterday offered this compromise in a last-ditch effort to break the budget impasse at the bicameral conference committee, warning that unless the 2006 national budget was passed, the 2005 budget would be reenacted again next year.

"I would like to see a compromise between these three institutions: The House, Senate and Malacañang," Recto said in a briefing.

"I don't mind giving the President the same spending authority she requested from Congress, which is roughly P1.1 trillion, including the unprogrammed funds," he said.

The chair of the committee on ways and means said he was also open to the idea of restoring the P26.7 billion in programmed funds and P37.3 billion in unprogrammed funds the Senate had slashed from the budget.

But the money, amounting to P64 billion, should be realigned to improve services in the education, health and agriculture sectors, and to build more roads and devise more technologies, he said.

"I would realign the P64 billion for other purposes and make it more transparent and more accountable."

Unprogrammed funds can only be realized when revenues exceed targets.

"Assuming you have a reenacted budget for 2006, then the budget for 2007 will be the one reenacted in 2006, which was the P907.56-billion 2005 budget," he said. "There's practically no time to pass 2007 budget in view of the impeachment and Cha-cha (Charter change) talks."

"I propose that we pass the 2006 budget. I don't mind the higher spending authority because whatever we pass this year will be reenacted for 2007."

The President is expected to present the 2007 budget on July 24 during her State of the Nation Address before Congress.

Bicameral talks bogged down early this month over the P64 billion slashed by the Senate from the budget, with the House insisting all the cuts should be restored and Malacañang warning that it would veto any cuts.

Congress adjourned its second regular session on July 8 without enacting the budget.

Hope, meanwhile, was dimming the suspended bicameral conference would be restarted before July 24, when Congress opens its third regular session.

SWEET DEALS
FROM
SINGAPORE
AIRLINES

AIRFARES

SINGAPORE from US$218
MALAYSIA from US$258
BRUNEI from US$298
INDONESIA, THAILAND & VIETNAM from US$318
AUSTRALIA from US$438
INDIA from US$528
NEW ZEALAND from US$738

PACKAGES

SINGAPORE for the GREAT SINGAPORE SALE from US$298 3 nights hotel
KUALA LUMPUR from US$348 2 nights hotel
BALI from US$368 3 nights hotel
BANGKOK & SINGAPORE from US$388 3 nights hotel
SAIGON & SINGAPORE from US$428 3 nights hotel
SIEM REAP & SINGAPORE from US$518 3 nights hotel
AUSTRALIA from US$688 3 nights hotel
MALDIVES from US$868 3 nights hotel

Visit singaporeair.com

SINGAPORE AIRLINES

Airfares: Valid for purchase until 15 July 2006, for departures until 31 July 2006. Discounts available to children below 12 years old.

Packages: Great Singapore Sale package is valid for purchase until 14 July 2006, for departures until 20 July 2006. Surcharge applies for hotel stays between 20 and 24 June 2006. Other packages are valid for purchase until 22 September 2006, for departures until 30 September 2006. Prices are based on adult two-sharing accommodation. Discounts available to children below 12 years old. Single supplement surcharge applies.

All prices quoted are per person based on roundtrip Economy Class travel and exclude taxes, fees and other surcharges. Minimum two (2) adults must travel together. Valid for travel from Manila. Other terms and conditions apply.

For more information on the above rates, please call SIA Reservations at 756 8888 (for airfares), SIA Tours Desk at 753-5151 to 52 or 756-8899 loc. 7001 (for packages), or your travel agent. For departures from Cebu or Davao, please call the SilkAir offices at (032) 232-6211 in Cebu and (082) 224-0902 in Davao.

Palace vows protection for business

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

MALACAÑANG HAS ASSURED BUSINESSmen the military and police were up to the task of protecting them, their employees and businesses from attacks by communist rebels.

Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita gave the assurance as he reiterated the government's order to businessmen to stop paying revolutionary taxes to the communist New People's Army.

"They (businessmen) can always coordinate with the local commanders and ask for some security. The military and police can provide both overt and covert [security]," Ermita said in an interview.

While he welcomed the businessmen's skepticism the authorities could protect them from the NPA, Ermita said "the government should put an end to the revolutionary taxes and we have to start somewhere."

Ermita said the communist insurgency was one of the biggest stumbling blocks to the Philippines making the huge leap toward higher economic growth.

"Our economic stability is dependent on our political environment. The instability is highlighted by the continued leftist threat. With the havoc caused by the NPA, both local and foreign investors are afraid to bring in investments, especially in the provinces. If they cannot set up factories, there will be no jobs and our economy will suffer. It's about time we put an end to this problem," Ermita said.

He said the President's goal of wiping out the communist insurgency within her term was doable.

"If we can address the center of activity of the insurgency by accounting for their commanders during the next two to three years, then we shall have accomplished something," Ermita said.

He noted that the P1 billion the President poured into the fight against the insurgency would be a big boost not only in terms of beefing up the military and police arsenal but also in terms of higher troop morale.

"The P1 billion may not be much but it is something that is well appreciated by our men. They will become more emboldened knowing that they they are fighting with sufficient logistical support, from their uniforms to their weapons," Ermita said.

Ermita said the purchase of more boats and helicopters would bolster the military's pursuit of rebels even in the hinterlands.

"It is a big deal for soldiers to know that they have helicopters and ships that could pluck them out in 10 to 15 minutes when they are in trouble. They become more confident and brave," he said.

With superior equipment, Ermita said the skirmishes between the military and the rebels would be shorter and would mean less chance of civilians getting caught in the crossfire.

But is all-out war fair to soldiers?

By Nikkko Dizon and Luige A. del Puerto

IS THE ALL-OUT WAR AGAINST THE COMmunist insurgency fair to the police and soldiers?

Former President Fidel V. Ramos posed the question yesterday to the Arroyo administration which had vowed to wipe out the Communist Party of the Philippines and its armed wing, the New People's Army, "in two years.

"The ultimate question is, is this order—ultimatum—fair or unfair to the AFP (Armed Forces of the Philippines) and the PNP (Philippine National Police) which are already undermanned, overstretched and underpaid," said Ramos at a press conference at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport shortly before he left for an Asean Eminent Persons Group meeting in Singapore.

"What are the chances of success? What are the costs in terms of collateral damage?" he said.

Ramos surmised the P1 billion President Macapagal-Arroyo had set aside to fund the war against the CPP and the NPA "may not even be enough for operations just in northern Luzon or southern Luzon', which are major regions, and even Mindanao itself."

Ramos said the "ultimatum" to wipe out the insurgency should also be given to national and local officials.

He said the military and police phase of the war against the insurgency should be combined with its socioeconomic and political aspects.

The police could only agree with him.

While an overwhelming military force could "wallop the insurgents" in two years, the root causes of the insurgency—such as poverty, injustice and bad governance—must be addressed by the government, police spokesperson Senior Supt. Samuel Pagdilao said yesterday.

The people must also see that changes that usher in development can be achieved within the system using constitutional processes such as elections, Pagdilao said, otherwise the people would remain vulnerable to recruitment by the rebels and the rebellion will simply fester.

This was the approach being adopted by the administration to break the spine of the communist insurgency, Pagdilao said at the weekly news briefing at Camp Crame yesterday.

The President, he said, had set aside some P300 million to aid in the economic development of the countryside.

"It is correct that arms alone is not a complete package to quell an insurgency. We have a national strategy that has been adopted that is holistic in (its) approach," he said.

"So if you look at the totality of this approach, it does not mean the PNP or Armed Forces are the only ones engaging the enemy," he said.

"Two years is long enough to wallop an armed group, but you know an insurgency (has many) dimensions and we have to address them," he said.

"If by using the constitutional framework one can change not only persons but also the way they carry out their administration or governance then... people do not have to be drawn to an insurgency or rebellion," he said.

1 of 25 Bulldozers
CAT D5R Bulldozer
1 of 60 Excavators
1 of 30 Wheel Loaders
1 of 12 Motor Graders
1 of 60 Excavators
1 of 60 Dropside Cargos
FUSO Fighter Dropside, Late Model
1 of 80 Dropside Cargos
1 of 40 Wing Vans
FUSO Fighter Alum. Wing Van Late Model
1 of 95 Closed Vans
1 of 5 Transit Mixers
1 of 95 Closed Vans
1 of 10 Tanker Trucks
FUSO 6-Stud Tank Lorry
Valenzuela Exit
Lawang Bato Temporary Exit
To Manila
To Baguio
NORTH Expressway
To Mc Arthur Hiway
ROYAL MALL
Valenzuela Exit
EVER MEMORIAL GARDEN
Meycauayan Exit

JOIN THE PUBLIC AUCTION OF
AM AUCTION IN MALINTA
TRUCKS • HEAVY EQUIPMENT • MISC. ITEMS

Auction Dates:
June 30 - July 3, 2006
STARTS AT 8:30 A.M. SHARP

Inspection Dates:
June 23 - 29, 2006
STARTS AT 8:30 A.M. SHARP

For inquiries please call:
(02)984-6741 • (02)984-6753 • (02)984-0215/16

Trucks & Equipment Financing available thru:
ORIX METRO Leasing & Finance Corp. • Tel (02) 858-8888

Email us: info@auctioninmalinta.com • Visit our website: www.auctioninmalinta.com

'Same offense, same case'

THE DEPARTMENT OF Justice scored a point against six militant lawmakers and 42 other individuals tagged in a Leftist-Rightist conspiracy to topple the administration after a Makati court ordered the consolidation of the two separate cases against them.

Makati Regional Trial Court Branch 57 Judge Reinato Quilala ordered the consolidation of the rebellion case against party-list Representatives Satur Ocampo, Teodoro Casiño, Joel Virador, Rafael Mariano and Liza Maza, former Sen. Gregorio Honasan and 40 others with the case against Anakpawis Rep. Crispin Beltran and rebel soldier 1st Lt. Lawrence San Juan.

Quilala, who handled the case against the Batasan 5 and their 41 co-accused, directed the transfer of the case's records to the sala of Makati RTC Branch 146 Judge Encarnacion Jaja Moya, to whose sala the case against Beltran and San Juan was raffled.

The case against Beltran and San Juan, a junior Army officer tagged as a leader of the July 27, 2003, Oakwood mutiny in Makati City, theorized a conspiracy between rebel soldiers and communist rebels to overthrow President Macapagal-Arroyo.

Tarra V. Quismundo

UK diplomat in hot water over Pinay lover's visa

LONDON—A MARRIED BRITISH diplomat pretended his Filipino girlfriend was a VIP so he could "fast-track" her visa and set up a secret home with her in England, a court in London heard Monday.

No sooner had Shared Ladva completed his posting in Manila and returned to Britain than he regularly lived with his mistress during the week before returning to his wife and family for the weekends.

Ladva's lover was allegedly one of dozens the 45-year-old helped get into Britain despite the "blatantly" false documents used in their applications, the court was told.

Southwark Crown Court in south London was told that the embassy official's dishonesty finally came to light when two of his colleagues blew the whistle on him.

They had earlier raised concerns with him about irregularities they had spotted in the paperwork, but stayed quiet after he overruled them.

Once he had left the Philippines, however, they mentioned their fears again, this time to other senior staff.

Ladva, from Warminster in Wiltshire, in the west of England, denies two counts of misconduct in a public office between Jan. 1 and Nov. 30, 2002. The trial continues. *AFP*

Wanna Play?
SWIFT
FREE SERVICE 2 YEARS 20,000 kms. whichever comes first
3 YEARS WARRANTY 100,000

All-New Global Car
SWIFT

It's playtime! Go sporty. Get young. Get behind the wheels of the new SUZUKI SWIFT. Take a cut away from the ordinary with its eye-catching looks, sparkling performance, nimble handling, and an upbeat interior that's as practical as it is stylish.

Drive now and have some serious fun.

2006 RJC CAR OF THE YEAR
Special Achievement Award "Most Fun"
Car of the Year Japan 2005-2006

Good Design
GOOD DESIGN AWARD

SUZUKI
Way of Life!

METRO MANILA
SUZUKI AUTO COMMONWEALTH
43 Commonwealth Avenue,
Quezon City
951-2201 to 10
SUZUKI AUTO EDSA
EDSA cor. Madison St.,
Mandaluyong City
634-3451 to 57

SUZUKI AUTO KALOOKAN
198 EDSA cor Tandang Sora St.,
Kalookan City
364-9093 / 305-6098 / 365-3011 / 365-7796
SUZUKI AUTO MAKATI
G / F Smith Bell Bldg, 2294
Don Chino Roces Ave Ext., Makati City
816-4097 / 810-1736 / 810-1737

SUZUKI AUTO QUEZON AVE.
1142 Quezon Avenue,
Quezon City
374-39-11 / 411-27-20
SUZUKI AUTO SHAW
411 Shaw Boulevard
Mandaluyong City
718-1834 to 35

PROVINCIAL
SUZUKI AUTO BACOLOD
Manor Bldg., Araneta St.,
Singcang Bacolod City
(034) 435-0288
SUZUKI AUTO CABANATUAN
Maharlika Highway, Cabanatuan City
(044) 463-5248 / 463-0089

SUZUKI AUTO CAGAYAN DE ORO
Mindanao Motor Compound Corrales Ave.,
Cagayan de Oro City
(088) 227-26357
SUZUKI AUTO CEBU
CDO Foodsphere Bldg.
A. S. Fortuna St., Banilad, Mandaue City
(032) 345-8893 / (032) 345-0507

SUZUKI AUTO DAGUPAN
National Highway, Ambonao
Calasiao, Pangasinan
(075) 517-17-17 / 8888 / 9999
SUZUKI AUTO DAVAO
Bo. Pampanga, Sasa,
Davao City
(082) 233-1140 / 234-0390

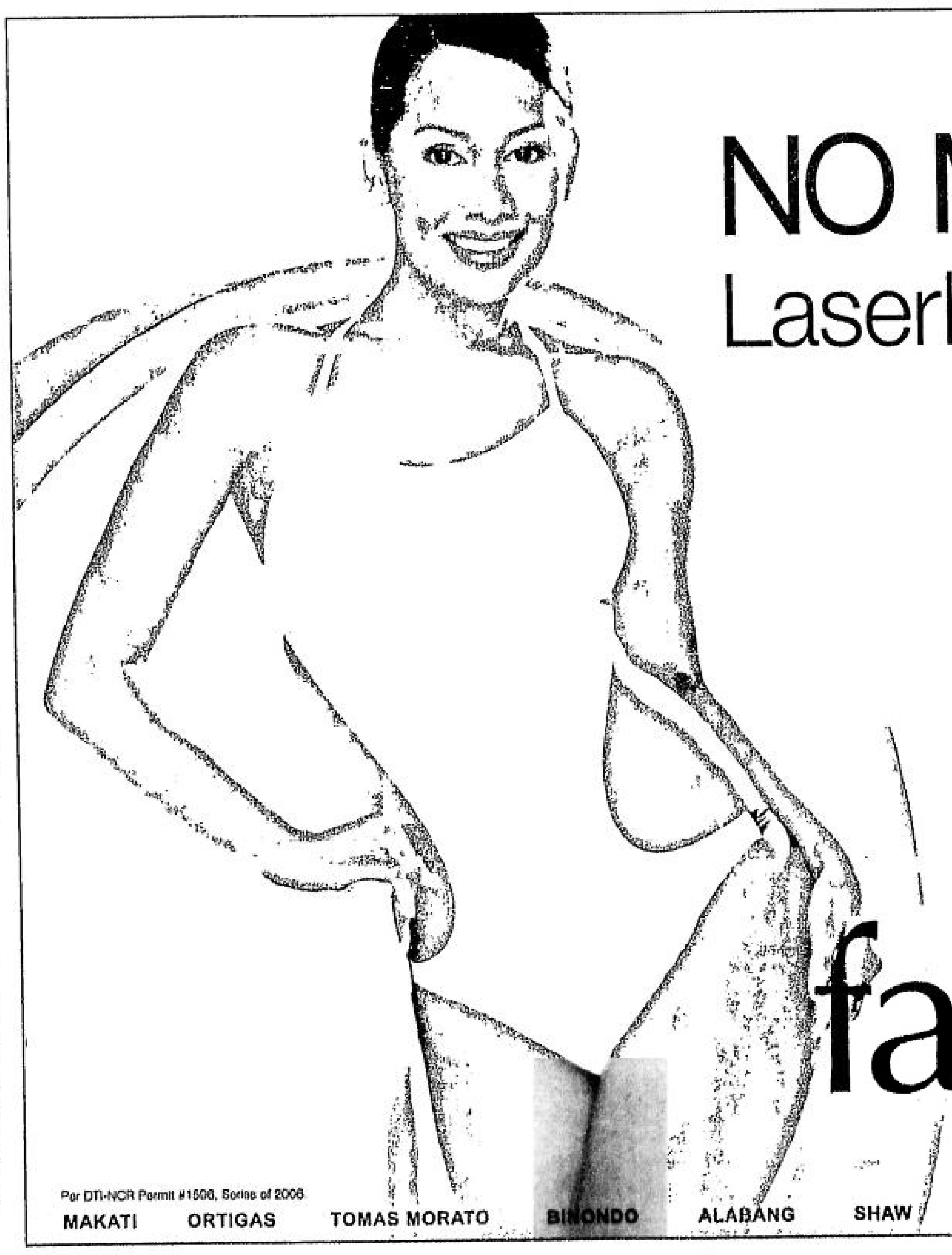
SUZUKI AUTO ILOILO
Luna St., Lapaz, Iloilo City
(033) 320-7020
SUZUKI AUTO LEGASPI
408 Rizal St., Cabangan,
Legaspi City
(054) 472-3577 to 79 / 472-3659

SUZUKI AUTO PAMPANGA
Olongapo-Gapan Road
City of San Fernando,
Pampanga
(045) 860-5971 / (045) 961-3573

SUZUKI AUTO ZAMBOANGA
Veterans Ave. cor. Tomas
Claudio St., Zamboanga City
(062) 991-1492 / 991-1126

www.suzuki.com.ph

JUST SAY "YES"!
Say "YES" to FREE delivery. Say "YES" to FREE issues. Say "YES" to paying by cash or credit card. Say "YES" and SUBSCRIBE!
The Philippine Daily Inquirer Delivers. Call 896-6000 now!
Offer Metro Manila only



NO MORE HAIR
LaserLight at 25% Off!

No more unsightly, unwanted hair on your underarms, upper lip, legs and bikini lines. That means no more shaving, plucking or waxing ever again! Plus, no more painful cuts, nicks, stubbles, darkened areas and unsightly chicken skin.

Say NO to all that. Enroll immediately for the LaserLight Hair Removal programme from **June 26-30, 2006**. Get sensuous, hair-free skin at a very affordable **25% discount**! Offer good for this week only.

LaserLight is FDA-approved for permanent hair reduction of unsightly, unwanted hair anywhere on your body. Call the Facial Care Centre professionals NOW!

CALL 892-SKIN (7546)

facial care
CENTRE
www.facialcarecentre.com.ph

Per DTI-NCR Permit #1606, Series of 2006
MAKATI ORTIGAS TOMAS MORATO BINONDO ALABANG SHAW CONGRESSIONAL PAMPANGA (961-3404) CEBU (233-7631)

BUY NOW!

EFORE PRICES INCREASE

Prices of Copper and Aluminum, both key materials in the manufacture of air conditioners, have increased by ***185% and 75%*** respectively as dictated by the world market.

We continue to stand by our commitment to provide you with only the best in quality products and will never compromise the durability, reliability and safety of Carrier air conditioners.

We are now constrained to raise our prices by an average of 8 to 10%.

We are announcing our price increase this early so that you can buy our products now before the price increase takes effect on ***July 4, 2006*** and while stocks last.

WINDOW ROOM AIR CONDITIONERS

0.5HP	PRICE NOW	SUGGESTED RETAIL PRICE JULY 4	PRICE INCREASE	% INCREASE
Standard	9,379	10,123	744	8%
Deluxe	9,891	10,678	787	8%
Remote	10,404	11,234	830	8%

0.75HP	PRICE NOW	SUGGESTED RETAIL PRICE JULY 4	PRICE INCREASE	% INCREASE
Standard	13,540	14,615	1,075	8%
Deluxe	14,078	15,171	1,093	8%
Remote	14,591	15,772	1,181	8%

1.0HP	PRICE NOW	SUGGESTED RETAIL PRICE JULY 4	PRICE INCREASE	% INCREASE
Standard	14,678	15,866	1,188	8%
Deluxe	15,575	16,838	1,263	8%
Remote	16,216	17,532	1,316	8%

1.1HP	PRICE NOW	SUGGESTED RETAIL PRICE JULY 4	PRICE INCREASE	% INCREASE
Standard	15,795	17,076	1,281	8%
Deluxe	16,554	17,899	1,345	8%
Remote	17,374	18,788	1,414	8%

1.5HP	PRICE NOW	SUGGESTED RETAIL PRICE JULY 4	PRICE INCREASE	% INCREASE
Standard	17,230	18,632	1,402	8%
Deluxe	18,091	19,564	1,473	8%
Remote	19,265	20,837	1,572	8%

2.0HP	PRICE NOW	SUGGESTED RETAIL PRICE JULY 4	PRICE INCREASE	% INCREASE
Standard	21,587	23,355	1,768	8%
Deluxe	22,104	23,914	1,810	8%
Remote	23,052	24,941	1,889	8%

2.5HP	PRICE NOW	SUGGESTED RETAIL PRICE JULY 4	PRICE INCREASE	% INCREASE
Standard	24,672	26,649	1,977	8%
Deluxe	25,430	27,472	2,042	8%
Remote	26,245	28,355	2,110	8%

HIGH WALL SPLIT SYSTEM AIR CONDITIONERS

Xpression

HP	PRICE NOW	SUGGESTED RETAIL PRICE JULY 4	PRICE INCREASE	% INCREASE
1.0 hp	27,163	29,395	2,232	8%
1.5 hp	30,238	32,742	2,504	8%
2.0 hp	38,438	41,527	3,089	8%
2.5 hp	42,538	45,956	3,418	8%

Alpha

HP	PRICE NOW	SUGGESTED RETAIL PRICE JULY 4	PRICE INCREASE	% INCREASE
1.0 hp	22,038	23,850	1,812	8%
1.5 hp	25,113	27,160	2,047	8%
2.0 hp	33,313	35,982	2,669	8%
2.5 hp	39,975	43,183	3,208	8%

Carrier

No. 1 in air conditioning

'Talong,' banana, condom in sex education classes

From page A1

would fume over the utter lack of values and morality in the lessons," Filipina Rañada, a public schoolteacher and researcher of Prolife Philippines, told the INQUIRER.

Interferes in child development

Quoting child development expert Dr. Melvin Anchell, Rañada cautioned against "sexual interference" in a child's development.

"At this stage of a child's development, his redirected sexual energy is used for the development of compassion, which is essential for the control of his cruelty impulses as a human being," she said.

"A child whose compassionate feelings are destroyed by sexual interference at this stage becomes devoid of this emotion when he reaches early adult life."

Rañada noted that even the Vatican's Pontifical Council for the Family cautioned against similar interference during a child's "age of innocence" (from about 5 years until puberty).

"So as not to disturb this important natural phase of growth, parents will recognize that prudent formation in chaste love . . . should be indirect, in preparation for puberty, when direct information will be necessary," said the council's "The Truth and Meaning of Human Sexuality, Guidelines for Education within the Family."

Bases of opposition

Rañada sought to put in perspective the bases of the Episcopal Commission on Family and Life and Human Life International's opposition to the modules.

The DepEd yesterday said it was not yet using the lesson guides on adolescent reproductive health for public high schools.

Fe Hidalgo, DepEd officer in charge, said the lesson guides were only being pilot-tested in two public schools. They will have to be evaluated first, based on the pilot stage, and then reviewed or revised.

In fact, Hidalgo said the department decided to pull out the lesson guides from the Parañaque High School and the Pateros National High School when the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines objected to the material.

"The said modules were in a pilot stage when issues were raised against them. And as part of the evaluative process, we must give due attention to these concerns. The modules have not been used in public schools and we have stopped the pilot testing in two schools," said Hidalgo.

Dialogue

She said the DepEd would hold a dialogue with concerned groups on the matter.

Rañada said the new set of modules was an offshoot of the materials first introduced in the school system in 1993. The modules were "upgraded and enhanced" in 1983, 1993 and 1996.

Other modules include "AIDS Education," which advocates safe sex (condom use) and safer sex (homosexual union), and the Revised Homeroom Guidance Program (RHGP), which promotes the "cult of selfism," she said.

Rañada, a holder of a master's degree in special education who was tapped to review the modules in 1996, said the materials were promoting "secular sex education."

"It tackles the conditioning of attitudes, behavior and thinking of young people toward a new culture, a new morality," she said.

This should supposedly explain a number of 'questionable lessons being offered to schoolchildren, she said.

The Enhanced Population Education Module (1996 Edition) for kindergarten appeared to have ignored the council's message.

Games

It teaches children new versions of a game ("Simon says ... touch your genitals") and a song ("This is the way I wash my genitals"), complete with demonstrations, Rañada said.

One book on values education for 4th year high school students says "there's no such thing as too much sex" because one would stop when she's had "enough," the Prolife Philippines researcher said.

She said the same book lists factors that lead to bleeding during a woman's first intercourse: How relaxed she is, how gentle her partner is, how much time and privacy the couple have, and how rigid the hymen is (if it is present at all).

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Wednesday, June 28, 2006
12th Week in Ordinary Time
Irenaeus

1st Reading:	2 K 22:8-13, 23:1-3
Gospel:	Matthew 7:15-20

Jesus said to his disciples, "Beware of false prophets: they come to you in sheep's clothing but inside they are wild wolves. You will recognize them by their fruits. Do you ever pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles?

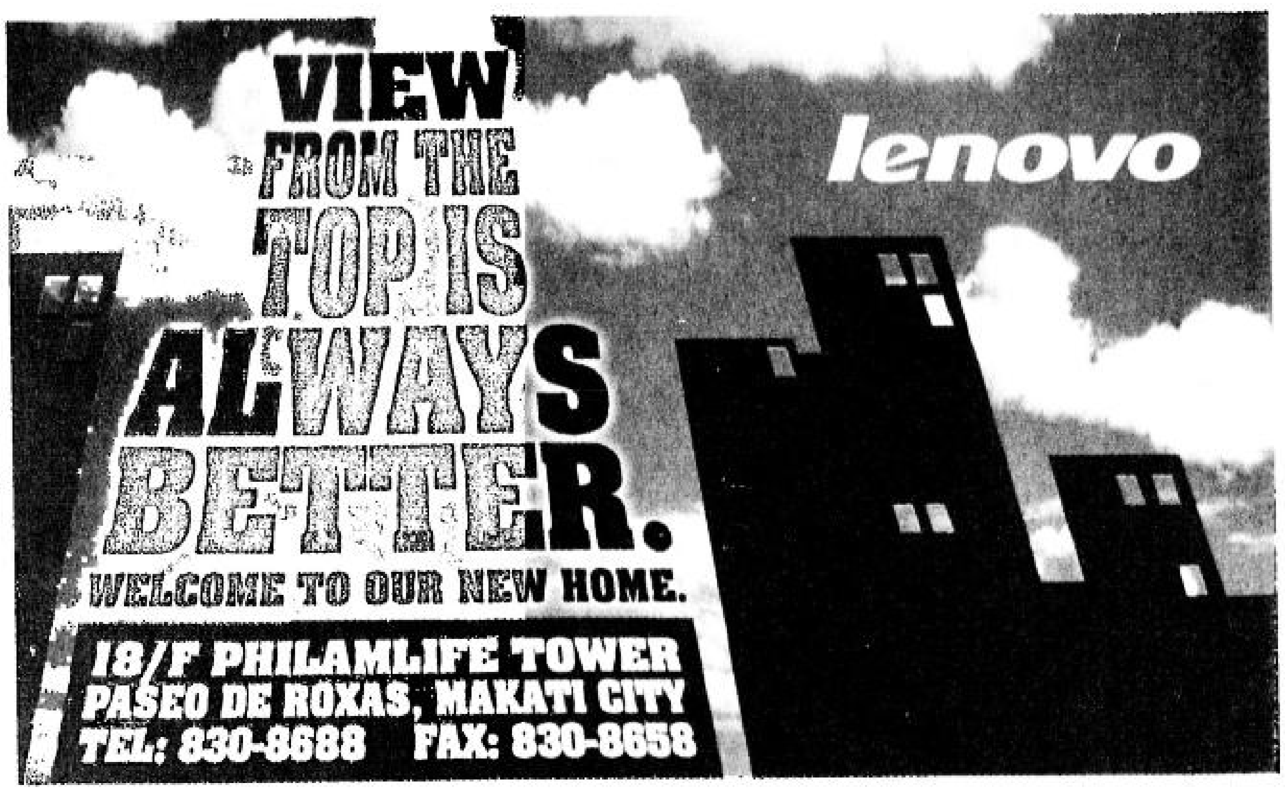
A good tree always produces good fruit, a rotten tree produces bad fruit. A good tree cannot produce bad fruit and a rotten tree cannot bear good fruit. Any tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown in the fire. So you will know them by their fruit."

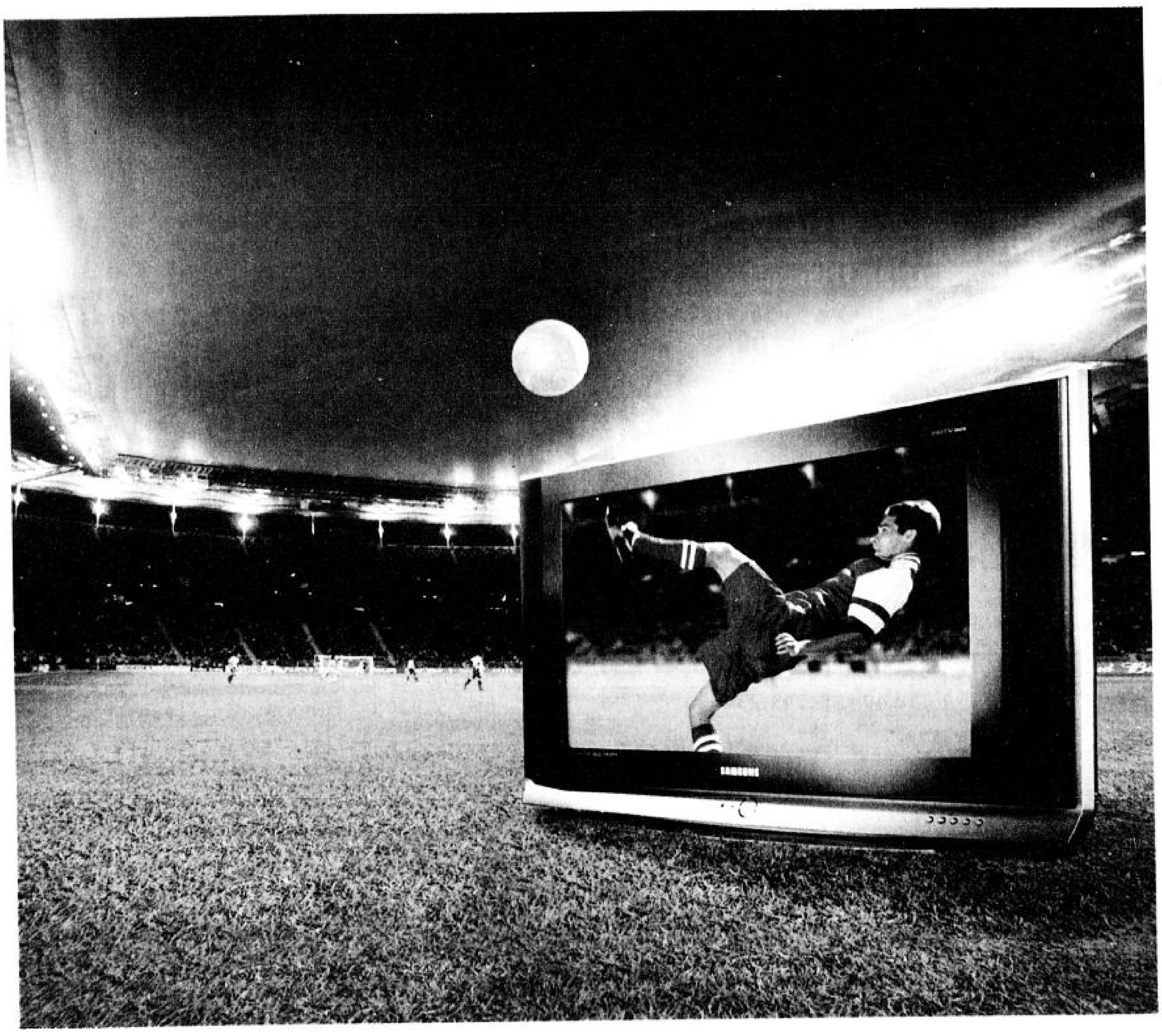
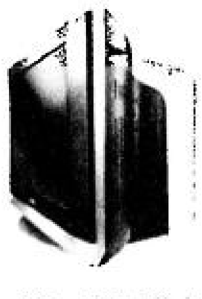
Commentary

The high priest and the king read the contents of the book of the law that was found in the temple so that all the people might listen and obey and the covenant may be renewed (again).

Again and again, we begin. We must look to our lives, our relationships, our churches and communities, our ways in the world, and see what fruit we are bearing for others: thorns, prickly plants, decayed trees, rotten fruit? Or grapes, figs, good fruit and sound trees: life, that nourishes and sustains and brings joy? This is Ordinary Time and we have need of lots of time to learn the ways of the Lord.

Claretian Publications Inc., 8 Mayumi St., UP Village, Diliman, Quezon City, UP P.O. Box 4, Diliman, 1101 Quezon City; Tel.: 921-3984; Fax: 921-7429; E-mail: cci@claret.org; Websites: http://www.bible.claret.org (Claretian Publications Inc.) & http://missionaries.claret.org (Claretians in the Philippines)


VIEW FROM THE TOP IS ALWAYS BETTER.
WELCOME TO OUR NEW HOME.
18/F PHILAMLIFE TOWER
PASEO DE ROXAS, MAKATI CITY
TEL: 830-8688 FAX: 830-8658
lenovo



SlimFit TV

imagine real cinematic thrill with the world's slimmest Flat TV

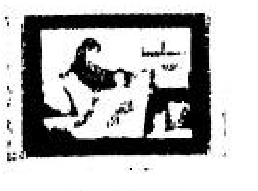
You'll marvel at the new Samsung Slimfit™TV which is one-third slimmer than other flat TVs yet capable of delivering unsurpassed picture quality. Before your very eyes, Samsung's DNIe™ breathes life into images with the most vivid colour and contrast, while Nano Pigment technology paints the most brilliat pictures you've ever seen. With Samsung SlimFit™ TV, it's not that hard to imagine. To learn more, visit www.samsung.com/ph. Available in 21", 29", 32" models.

SAMSUNG

Samsung Customer Contact Center: TOLL FREE 1-800-10SAMSUNG for PLDT or 1-800-3SAMSUNG for Digitel.

WS32Z40HN
12mos. / 0% Interest
Add P10,000 & get a HTP-10 Home Theater System

CS29Z40HE
12mos. / 0% Interest
Add P10,000 & get a HTP-10 Home Theater System


CT21Z30
12mos. / 0% Interest
Add P2,990 & get a DVD-P260K DVD Player

Automatic CENTRE

MAKATI
3rd Level, Glorietta 4 Ayala Center
Tel nos. 729-0460 to 52

G/F, Greenbelt 1, Ayala Center
Tel nos 750-3316/893-0543 to 44

TAGUIG
3rd Level, Market! Market!Mall
Bonifacio Global City
Tel. nos 768-2552 to 53

MUNTINLUPA
2nd Level, Festival Supermall
Alabang Tel. nos. 850-3537 or 39

3rd Level, Ayala Town Center,
Alabang Tel. nos. 809-5961
809-6070

LAS PIÑAS
2nd Level SM Southmall
Tel nos 800-4724 to 25

PASIG
2nd Level, Ortigas Home Depot
Ortigas Center
Tel. nos 635-4074/635-0010

MANDALUYONG
2nd Level, Robinson's Place Pioneer,
Pioneer St cor EDSA
Tel. no. 747-3146-47

G/F Edsa Central Mall,
Shaw Blvd cor EDSA
Tel nos. 663-0091 / 663-0722

MANILA
G/F Tutuban Centermall 1
Tel. nos 251-0381 or 83

SAN JUAN
Shoppesville Arcade, Greenhills
Shopping Center
Tel. nos. 7051370 or 89

QUEZON CITY
3rd Level, Robinsons Galleria
Ortigas Ave cor EDSA
Tel nos 632-0872 to 73

3rd Level, Gateway Mall
Araneta Center Cubao
Tel. nos. 913-4042/913-4573

Value Station Arcade, Araneta Center
Cubao Tel. nos 421-0319 to 20

Upper G/F SM North Edsa
Tel nos. 927-6747 or 63

CEBU
Ayala Center Cebu
Tel. nos. (032) 2321001-02

MAKATI
2nd Level Glorietta 1, Ayala Center,
Tel nos 887-2352 to 53

QUEZON CITY
G/F, Ali Mall Cubao
Tel nos 912-6601 to 04

PASIG
Robinson's Place Metro East
Marcos Highway Pasig City
Tel. nos 647-8606 or 06

MANDALUYONG
2nd Level EDSA Central Pavilion
Tel. nos. 634-3134/637-0568

CALOOCAN
2nd Level Zabarte Town Center
Tel nos 962-4165 to 66

MANILA
2nd Level, Tutuban Centermall 1
Tel nos. 252-8165/230-4165

Dark horse emerges in race for new PNP chief

DIRECTOR SERVANDO HIZON: I supported Cory for Edsa I but not anymore since she asked GMA to resign, he tells the INQUIRER. Is this why he's reported to be Lomibao's (right) "pet"? PDI PHOTO

From page A1

Both Lomibao and Hizon are widowers.

The INQUIRER source, the head of a major unit, said Hizon's name was floated as a likely contender after President Macapagal-Arroyo came to his wife's wake two weeks ago.

The INQUIRER tried to reach Lomibao for comment through his cell phone, but the calls went unanswered. Lomibao has said his mind "is set to retire on July 5" and that he had begun packing his things at the White House, his official residence at Crame the past year and four months.

Constant companion

One officer said Hizon, one of three police officials who almost always accompanied Lomibao in his out-of-town sorties, enjoyed the confidence of the PNP chief.

He claimed that Lomibao was set to recommend to President Macapagal-Arroyo only one name—Hizon's—as his successor.

"But barring any unforeseen circumstances, the second in command (Calderon) takes over. It is, however, the prerogative of the President to choose any senior or junior [officer as the police chief]," he said.

Asked to comment last night, Calderon and Hizon also acknowledged the presidential prerogative.

"The choice of PNP chief is the sole discretion of the President, being a position that requires ... [her] utmost trust and confidence," Hizon said.

"I will support whoever will be the next chief—like a good soldier," he added.

Razon declined to give any statement on the matter.

Less jockeying

WHO WILL THE PRESIDENT BLESS? Another contender is someone like PNP Deputy Director General for Administration Oscar Calderon, who's standing (literally) behind her. PDI PHOTO

Traditionally, the position of PNP chief goes to the most senior and competent official, usually equal in rank to a two-star or three-star general in the military and preferably one who still had more than a year to serve before retiring.

Unlike last year, when Ms Arroyo picked Lomibao to take over the PNP leadership following the retirement of Director General Lucas Managuelod, there appeared to be less aggressive jockeying for the position this time, even none at all.

"We know it has already been decided upon," one of the sources said of the issue of succession. "The President is in Europe, how do you lobby?"

Ms Arroyo is currently on a weeklong visit to Italy and Spain.

Seniority in PMA

But another source said Ms Arroyo still had to make up her mind, even on the issue of the possible extension of Lomibao's term.

DEPUTY Director General Avelino Razon, PNP's third in command PDI PHOTO

In the PNP, the first source stressed, "seniority is very important to us." By this, he meant the way it was practiced in the PMA, where the majority of the present crop of police officers graduated from.

An officer from an older batch usually has more chances of getting a higher post than one from a younger batch in the academy. But still, a few outstanding officers have made it past their seniors in rank and position.

Senior Supt. Samuel Pagdilao, PNP spokesperson, said Camp Crame had begun preparations for Lomibao's retirement and turnover of command. But, of course, the ceremonies will be canceled if Lomibao's term is extended, he said.

Hizon served in Sulu and Davao del Sur in the early part of his career. He was police director of Basilan, Zamboanga del Sur and Rizal in the 1990s.

During the last three years, he has served as chief of the Special Action Force, the Zamboanga police regional office, and the directorates for logistics and comptrollership.

7 Flags
A Notch Above The Rest
U/12 La Fuerza Plaza, # 2241 Pasong Tamo St. (Between EDSA and Pasay Road), Makati City
Tel. Nos.: 894-37-97 / 812-16-78

TINTS TINTS TINTS UP TO 70% OFF ON JAPAN TINTS

1,990.00 for Sedans
+400 for Revo / Pajero / Starex ...
+700 for Expedition / Suburban ...
WITH 3 YEARS WARRANTY

Rain or Shine • Dust & Pollution Free
AIRCON TINT ROOM

- Maximum Solar Protection + + + Choose from over 30 tints on our
- State-of-the-Art Tint Tester
- Clear & Specialty Safety Films
- All Major Brands Available at 20% Off
- Official Tinters of Major European and Imported Cars
- No Extra Charge for Aircon Tint Room

WE INSTALL TINTS FOR AUTO, BUILDINGS, BANKS, HOMES, MALLS, OFFICES, RESTAURANTS ....

3 Models to choose from
P 11,900.00 up
H.I.D.
XENON LIGHTING
HELLA BALLAST SYSTEM
Made for all Vehicle Types
12 to 24 Months Warranty
Plus FREE
HELLA LASER Alignment

We Ship Nationwide • We Beat or Match Competitive Offer

ALARMS, BATTERIES, BULBS, I-POD, H.I.D. HORNS, WIPERS & MORE

ALARM
P 3,990.00
Advanced Vehicle Remote Engine Starter & Security System

- Remote engine start
- Remote door lock/unlock
- Silent arm/disarm
- Automatic rearming
- Remote trunk release
- Super bright BLUE LED indicator
- High sensitivity two-stage shock sensor

All Major Credit Cards Accepted

BEST AIRLINE TO ASIA
Travel Weekly Globe Awards 2006 by Travel Weekly.

skytrax AWARDS
ECONOMY CLASS ONBOARD SERVICE EXCELLENCE

skytrax
a certified 5 Star Airline

International Supersavers
See more places. Share more stories.

Be pampered by the airline that has received the Skytrax Economy Class Onboard Service Excellence award in 2006. For more information, please call (632) 5259404-08 (Manila), (63-32) 2320905/2336817 (Cebu), your travel agent or log on to www.malaysiaairlines.com

Destinations	Return fares from Manila & Cebu
Australia & New Zealand	
Adelaide	USD440
Auckland	USD550
Brisbane	USD440
Melbourne	USD440
Perth	USD410
Sydney	USD440
Japan	
Fukuoka	USD550
Nagoya	USD550
Osaka	USD550
Tokyo	USD550

Destinations	Return fares from Manila & Cebu
India	
Bangalore	USD450
Chennai	USD450
Delhi	USD450
Hyderabad	USD450
Mumbai	USD450
China	
Beijing	USD440
Chengdu	USD440
Guangzhou	USD440
Kunming	USD440
Shanghai	USD440
Xiamen	USD440

Destinations	Return fares from Manila & Cebu
Europe	
Frankfurt	USD670
London*	USD670
Paris	USD670
Rome	USD670
Stockholm	USD670
Zurich	USD670
South Africa	
Cape Town*	USD600
Johannesburg*	USD600
America	
Los Angeles	USD610
New York	USD630

malaysia AIRLINES
Going beyond expectations

TERMS & CONDITIONS: Reservations: Waitlist and open dated ticket not permitted. Subject to seat availability. Travel period: Effective immediately until 31 July 2006, Europe effective until 30 June 2006. Travel to be completed by 31 July 2006. Fare: Adult only. Child pays adult fare Refund: All tickets issued are not refundable. Rerouting: Not permitted Other charges: The promotional fares are not inclusive of fuel surcharge, insurance & airport tax and other applicable charges Other terms and conditions apply. Black out period: *26 May to 11 June 2006 except for Japan*
*The promotional fares to these destinations are valid only on the following flights: Johannesburg & Cape Town - MH203/MH204. London - MH001/MH002.

2 MILF commanders eyed in bomb attack on governor

By Luige A. del Puerto

POLICE YESTERDAY WERE LOOKING into the possible involvement of two Moro Islamic Liberation Front commanders in the failed attempt on the life of Maguindanao Gov. Andal Ampatuan last week.

Police made the disclosure after bomb experts established that the bomb that exploded as the governor's convoy passed through Shariff Aguak town in Maguindanao had strong similarities to the explosive that killed his son three years ago.

Officials identified the suspects in the 2003 bombing as Jamil Ombra and Sajid Pakiladato. Ombra was said to be a division commander of the MILF's 105th Base Command and Pakiladato a brigade commander.

That attack killed Saudi Ampatuan Sr., the mayor of Datu Piang town and one of the governor's sons.

Philippine National Police spokesperson Senior Supt. Samuel Pagdilao in a statement said cases were filed against Ombra and Pakiladato for the earlier attack and the courts had issued warrants for their arrest.

PNP Director General Arturo Lomibao ordered the police in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, of which Maguindanao is a part, to serve the arrest warrants on the two MILF commanders.

Ampatuan was unhurt in the explosion that killed seven people, including some of his relatives, and wounded several others on Friday morning.

The governor was in the lead car of the convoy when the bomb that had been placed in a multicab parked on the side of the road exploded as he passed by. The blast wrecked the vehicle immediately behind the governor's.

It was the fourth attempt on Ampatuan's life.

The attackers had fashioned an explosive device out of five 81-mm mortar shells but only three of the shells detonated, according to Philippine Bomb Data Center technicians.

The experts also found traces of plastic C-4 explosives at the site of the explosion. They believed it was used to boost the bomb's explosive power.

"PBDC technicians established a similarity in the bomb signature with that of the 2003 explosion... (meaning) the way it was constructed and the... materials used," said Pagdilao.

"This is where this investigation is leading to now," he said.

Police have also identified the owner of the vehicle in which the bomb was placed and were trying to locate him at press time.

They were also working on an artist's sketch of the people last seen driving the multicab.

"The cab was seen moving from one place to another before the incident," Pagdilao said, adding the police believe the target was definitely the governor.

But investigators have not discounted terrorism as an angle, he said.

Police intelligence back in April had revealed the presence of two Indonesian bomb instructors in the area.

"The Indonesian bomb experts (were) conducting training in that area. Whether or not this group [was] responsible is a matter of investigation by the PNP," Pagdilao said.

Loren to SC: Release partial result of recount

By Cynthia D. Balana

FORMER SEN. Loren Legarda yesterday urged the Supreme Court to release even a partial result of the recount of votes in Cebu and the retabulation of election returns in Lanao del Sur after she agreed to the proposal of Vice President Noli de Castro's lawyer to suspend the recount proceedings in Pampanga.

Through her lawyer, Sixto Brillantes, Legarda asked the high court, sitting as the Presidential Electoral Tribunal, to render a "partial determination" of the results of the election in Cebu and Lanao del Sur. The recount of votes in Cebu was already 99 percent complete, she said.

Legarda expressed confidence that she would be able to prove her allegations of massive fraud committed against her during the 2004 vice presidential election.

Legarda clarified that she did not withdraw her protest when she agreed to the motion of De Castro's lawyer, Romulo Macalintal, to forego the retabulation of the election returns from six towns of Lanao del Sur, which had gone missing from the custody of Congress.

She stressed that the ERs thus far retabulated in Lanao del Sur, as well as the ballots examined in Cebu, had already provided "more than ample proof" of poll fraud against her and her presidential running mate, the late Fernando Poe Jr.

According to Legarda, a direct examination of the ERs from the four Lanao del Sur towns, particularly in Taraka and Balindong, as well as a video of how the ER switching was allegedly conducted right inside the premises of the House of Representatives, were "empirical pieces of evidence" of cheating.

"Being crude fakes, the ERs from Congress failed to stand scrutiny vis-à-vis the returns belonging to the Commission on Election (Comelec), the National Movement for Free Elections (Namfrel) and those provided the dominant political parties," she said.

EPSON
EXCEED YOUR VISION

Great Prints,
Great Gadgets!

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL
THE WINNERS of the 3rd MONTHLY DRAW!

SONY PSP
1. Francis Gaerlan
235 Makisig St. Bacood Sta. Mesa Manila
2. Maricar Torres
79-c Shorthorn St., Rd. 23, Proj 8 Quezon City
3. Alizandro M. Taino
793 Garcia St., Pagsanjan Laguna

IPOD NANO
1. Monalissa M. Gacutan
584-57 San Andres Malate, Manila
2. Alan Barraza
187-d N Domingo St. San Juan Manila
3. Jorge Gusilatar
13 Hizon St. Galler Subd. Banlat Tandang Sora

PALM TX
1. Gemma Galera
48 M Cuenco St. Sta Mesa Heights QC
2. Gabriel Mananghaya
a3i Golf Hill Terraces, Manotok Drv, Old Balara QC
3. Angelo R. Budomo Jr.
Olegario St. Mangatarem, Pangasinan

PICTUREMATE 100
1. Catherine Lunar
Blk 79 L6 Chrv1 Brgy Lancaan Dasma Cavite
2. Rose Marie Alumno
21 Belvedere St., Paranaque City

MAC MINI
1. Ernesto Turalba
30a Manga St. SFDM QC
2. Marites Guiling
San Jose Del Monte Bulacan

MacBook PRO
1. Gina Pution
36 F. Roxas San Juan Manila

NOKIA N70
1. George M. Fajardo
679 Soler St. Atimonan, Quezon
2. Lourdes Allarey
BF Resort Las Pinas City
3. Ma. Teresa B. Lopez
B11 L8 Camella Springville South 2 Bacoor, Cavite

OLYMPUS SP500
1. Sherly Dela Pena
1368 DMC Del 96 Caloocan City
2. Crisbeni Artajo
11 K Redemptorist Site, Cebu City

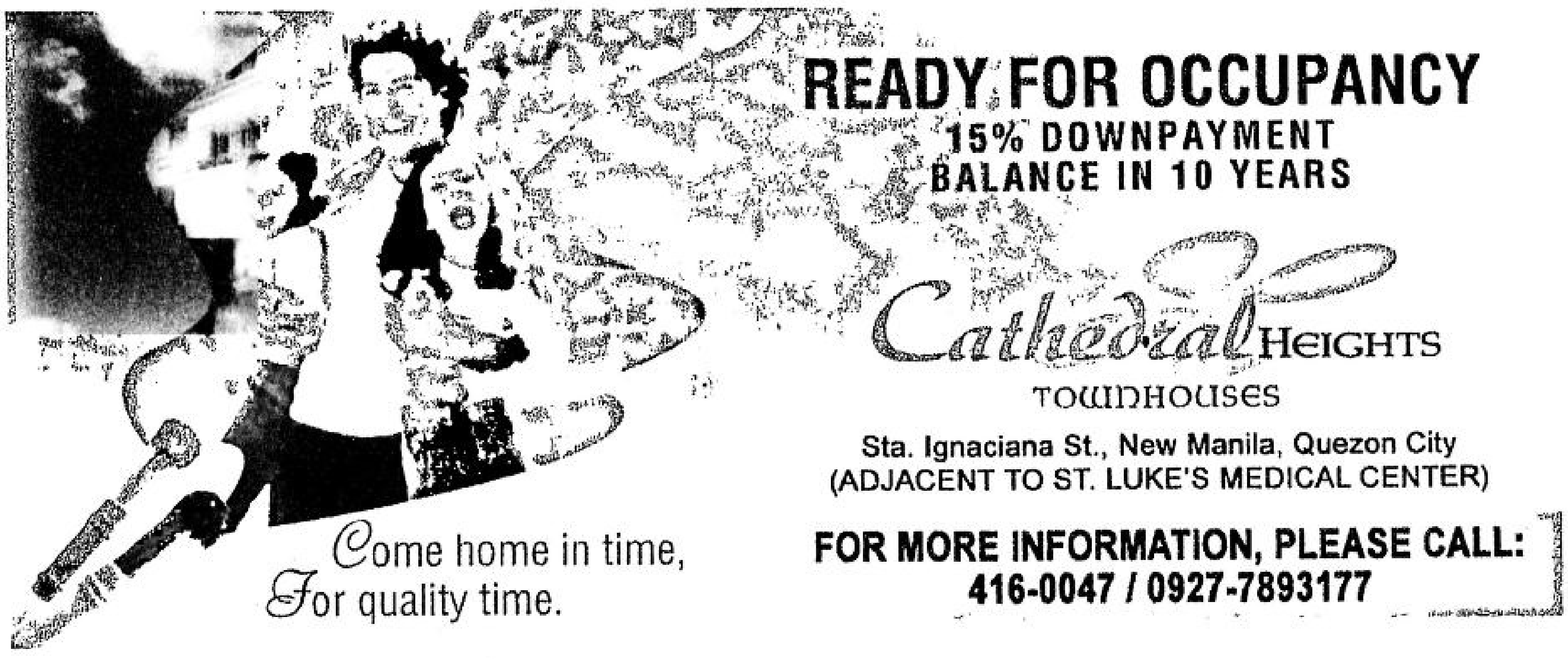
P2000 PICTURE VIEWER
1. Rayche Maglasang
Pandan, Bogo, Cebu
2. Arnelli Mendoza
Kauswagan Cagayan De Oro City

www.epson.com.ph

Promo Period from March 25 to June 25, 2006
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0540 Series of 2006

EPSON Genuine Supplies
USE ONLY EPSON GENUINE SUPPLIES
Best for your prints,
Best for your printers..
DURABrite Ultra
INK IVIDUAL

NEXOR
HDPE Solid and Corrugated Pipes
100% VIRGIN GRADE
JUNNI
Tel. (02) 712-9410
Website: www.nexorpipes.com


READY FOR OCCUPANCY
15% DOWNPAYMENT
BALANCE IN 10 YEARS
Cathedral HEIGHTS
TOWNHOUSES
Sta. Ignaciana St., New Manila, Quezon City
(ADJACENT TO ST. LUKE'S MEDICAL CENTER)
Come home in time,
For quality time.
FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:
416-0047 / 0927-7893177

V
GET READY FOR
THE POWER OF RED.

Cops fail to stop marchers

By Margaux C. Ortiz

RIOT TROOPS YESTERDAY BOMbarded around 800 militants with water cannons when they tried to march on Malacañang to denounce the government's all-out war on insurgents.

But they did get a little closer than before to the historic Mendiola (Don Chino Roces) Bridge leading to the Palace.

The protesters from Bayan, Kilusang Mayo Uno, Anakpawis, Gabriela and Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas had first assembled near the University of Sto. Tomas.

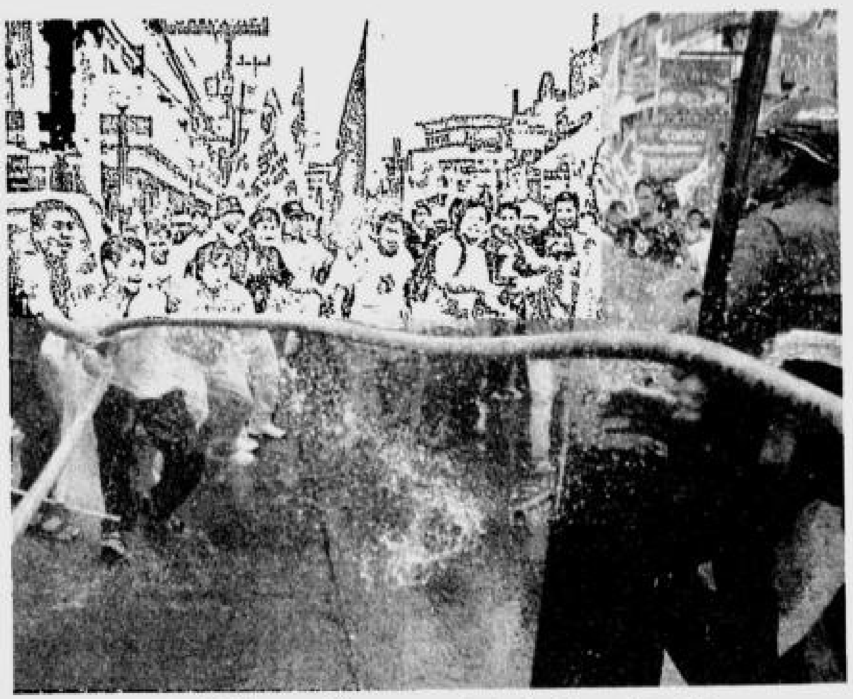
Blocked at P. Noval Street, they took a detour to Mendiola, passing through Lacson, Lepanto and Bustillos streets, where police gave them a dousing.

'Zero tolerance'

Pushing on, the protesters got as far as the corner of Legarda and Gastambide, where policemen with nightsticks finally stopped them.

"We were able to make it this far because Ms Arroyo is in the Vatican City boasting about the abolition of the death penalty, which displays nothing but hypocrisy and deception," Bayan chair Carol Araullo said in an interview.

"The (police) probably did not want the international community to think that this government has zero-tolerance for protesters."



STOP all political killings, militants cry out during the rally near Malacañang, but not quite Mendiola. Their protest and demands are watered down by antiriot cops.

REM ZAMORA

SBMA exec denies telling 'Nicole' to accept money

By Tonette Orejas
PDI Central Luzon Desk

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—A SUBIC BAY Metropolitan Authority official yesterday denied telling rape complainant "Nicole" to accept money and settle out of court the rape case she had filed against four American servicemen.

SBMA consultant Ben Natividad called the allegation "absolutely unfair."

Nicole's stepsister Anna Liza Franco told a Makati court on Monday that a man named Ben Natividad approached them on Nov. 2 and told them to "just accept payment."

No such allegation cropped up during the preliminary investigation, according to Olongapo City Prosecutor Prudencio Jalandoni.

Natividad said that, at the time, he was senior executive assistant to SBMA Chair Feliciano Salonga and attended the investigation on the instruction of his boss.

He said several people, including US servicemen, were also around.

"Anyone in the crowd could have made such a remark. To ascribe the statement to me, when I was merely tasked to provide the victim with all the necessary assistance, is absolutely unfair," Natividad said in a statement.

Heard no one

"People came in and out of the room. I heard no one tell her that," he said.

Natividad said his task at the time was to provide legal and medical assistance, which included finding the complainant a place for her privacy.

He said Nicole and her family seemed to have forgotten the "good deeds" the SBMA had tried to extend to them.

Who should take charge?

An INQUIRER source among top SBMA officials has said that in the two days following the incident, three SBMA camps wrangled over who should be on top of the situation.

Salonga's camp, through Natividad, was the first to respond. Jose Calimlim, SBMA senior deputy administrator for operations, then sent a separate legal team, while SBMA Administrator Armand Arreza took custody of the woman until a social welfare department team arrived.

Subic bartender: Lessons on cocktails

From page A1

na Liza Franco, had told the court they had ordered on the night of Nov. 1 last year, when the alleged rape took place in a van at the Subic Bay Freeport.

An earlier witness, US Navy Petty Officer Christopher Mills, said Nicole took four to five glasses of those drinks. Mills had described himself as a family friend who had invited the Zamboanga City-based sisters to join him on a vacation in Subic.

On direct examination by private prosecutor Honorato Aquino, Sanidad said he was one of the three bartenders on duty on the night in question.

On cross-examination, Sanidad said he never got to meet Nicole at the crowded bar and could not tell if he was the one who actually prepared her drinks.

Sanidad's testimony, which visibly amused the gallery, turned out to be a virtual lesson on how the five drinks are mixed and served. After each mention of the ingredients and their "ratio," Aquino asked him to give the alcohol content.

Vodka Sprite is "one shot vodka (40-percent alcohol) and three shots Sprite." One shot corresponds to a 25-ml jigger, Sanidad said.

Long Island Iced Tea, meanwhile, is 1/3 shot each of vodka, gin, tequila, white rhum and an orange-flavored liqueur called Triple Sec, three shots of Coke and 1/2 shot of lemon juice.

Several Bullfrogs

A Bullfrog is one shot each of vodka, gin and lime juice and two shots each of pineapple juice and Sprite, according to the 16th witness for the prosecution.

Multiple orders of Bullfrog, if requested, can be served in a pitcher which can contain up to six glasses, he said.

In her testimony on Friday, Franco said Nicole had drunk "half a pitcher" of Bullfrog "straight up" shortly before meeting one of the accused, Lance Cpl. Daniel Smith, on the dance floor.

On cross-examination, defense counsel Jose Justiniano and Enrico Uyehara made Sanidad state how many ice cubes usually went into each glass.

Relevance of the ice

The witness said that in the case of Vodka Sprite and Bullfrog, the concoctions usually filled up two-thirds of an 8- or 10-oz glass before ice was added.

Justiniano even produced a tape measure so that the witness could give his answers in inches.

Prosecutors questioned the relevance of bringing up the amount of ice, but Makati City Judge Benjamin Pozon upheld the defense panel's tack.

"The bigger the ice, the lesser the effect," he said, smiling.

But yesterday's session was not all about mixing drinks.

Recalled to the witness stand, Nicole's stepsister again came under intense grilling by defense lawyers, who tried to show that Nicole was coherent before the alleged rape occurred.

Franco appeared to keep her composure, rebuffing the defense lawyers and sticking to her earlier testimony that she saw "Nicole" heavily drunk and staggering at the Neptune Club moments before she lost sight of her.

The prosecution is banking on testimony that Nicole was dead drunk to prove that she could not have agreed to have sex with Smith, contrary to his claim.

How many drinks?

Nicole had alleged that Smith raped her in the back of a cruising Starex van as his comrades—Lance Corporals Keith Silkwood and Dominic Duplantis and Staff Sgt. Chad Carpentier—cheered him on.

Francisco Rodrigo, Carpentier's counsel, again asked Franco about the drinks she and her sister consumed at Neptune Club.

He asked Franco whether at any point she had told her sister that they should return to their hotel as they had already consumed several drinks and were beginning to feel dizzy.

"Did you not tell [Nicole] that you were dizzy? Did it not occur to you to ask [Nicole] to go back to the hotel?" Rodrigo asked.

Debate heats up

Franco said no, pointing out that she felt at ease with Mills around, referring to the family friend.

It was Mills and another serviceman, Carlos Ocasio, who had invited Franco, Nicole and their 12-year-old sister to travel to Olongapo City from Zamboanga for a vacation.

The courtroom heated up when Rodrigo asked Franco to describe how Nicole consumed the last drink she had that night—a half-pitcher of Bullfrog. Franco had said the pitcher was ordered by Mills' friend, an American serviceman identified only as Garcia.

A debate ensued over where the pitcher—which was on another table—was, with Rodrigo trying to show that Nicole "was not that drunk" to be able to walk to where it was.

Nicole's lawyer Evalyn Ursua countered by saying that Nicole was drunk that night.

Franco is expected to return to the stand at the next hearing on Thursday.

Corrections

IN THE JUNE 15 ISSUE, an INQUIRER monitor on Page B1 of the Business section misstated the country with the second highest number of nationals who visited the Philippines from January to April this year. South Korea—not Korea—earned that distinction. Thus, instead of having both the flags of North Korea and South Korea on the graph, it should have contained the South Korean flag alone.

* * *

IN THE JUNE 23 ISSUE, a caption in Maurice Arcache's column—"Without Batting an Eyelash"—on Page F2 of the Lifestyle section misstated the name of the person beside former President Corazon Aquino. The person beside Aquino was Fr. Bienvenido Nebres, SJ—not Manila Archbishop Gaudencio Cardinal Rosales. The archbishop was mentioned in the column, but there was no photo of him on the page.

* * *

IN THE JUNE 25 ISSUE, a caption on Page A3-1 of the Entertainment section misstated that GMA 7 reporter Jay Taruc had accepted a posthumous award on behalf of his father Joe during rites marking the Rotary Club of Manila's 2005 Journalism Awards. Jose "Joe" Taruc, the recipient of the organization's Hall of Fame Award, is still alive.

* * *

Readers may send their requests for correction of factual errors in writing to the Day Desk, Philippine Daily Inquirer, PDI Building, Chino Roces Avenue corner Mascardo Street, Makati City, fax Nos. 897-47-93/94; e-mail address: daydesk@inquirer.com.ph.

Complaints about lack of fairness or objectivity may be sent to Lorna Kalaw Tirol, readers' advocate, e-mail address: readersadvocate@inquirer.com. ph or fax Nos. 897-47-93/94, Attn: Readers Advocate. Her phone number is 897-8808 Local 342.

Are You Missing Out On These Pleasure Factors During Sex?

Are you secretly suffering from lack of strong, hard performance during your intimate moments with your partner? Or do you have to take a drug to help you perform well, but secretly suffer fterwards from headache and fear it might one day kill you? Man achieves ultimate sex pleasure if 4 factors are present: hard and sustained erection, prolonged orgasm, quicker recovery after orgasm, and last but not least – a satisfied partner. And speaking of partner, the woman's major problem is usually lack of sexual desire or lack of lubrication. She achieves major enjoyment when desire and lubrication are induced naturally.

POTENSAN®, a dietary supplement that does not require doctor's prescription, is 100% made of natural herbs and has been helping men achieve stronger, harder, sustained erections, prolonged orgasm and quicker recovery since 10 years ago. Women taking Potensan began experiencing increased desire and lubrication. Potensan is safe and effective, BFAD-approved and contains no chemicals that cause harmful side-effects. In a clinical study in 2003 in London, 624 men and 251 women having poor sex life were given Potensan daily for 10-20 days. The results were amazing. 88.4% of men experienced improvement. Success rate among women was 86.5%. Half of them felt significant improvement.

Potensan is available at Mercury Drug as well as via direct ordering from hotlines at (02) 843-1586 and 843-4411. Call now for more information from friendly, professional and confidential hotline operators. You can also visit the website at www.potensan.com and order online.

JUST SAY "YES"!
The Philippine Daily Inquirer Delivers. Call 896-6000 now!

Gives better value for your money

FHP
Stainless Steel Kitchen Sink
28"
22"
Made in USA by
Federal Home Products
(Owned by Franke Ag Switzerland)
P/ 2000.00

NOVA
Stainless Steel Kitchen Sink
33"
22"
P/ 2200.00

Aquatriton Water Purifier
3 Functional Positions
P/ 4500.00
1.) Tap water
* Wash hands
* Dish wash
* Wash clothes
2.) Purified water
Clean water for drinking & cooking
3.) Cleaning
Cleans & prolongs the filter
* Ultra purity with cleaning function.
* Ultra dirt holding capacity.
(10 times higher than a conventional unit)
* Ultra long life with high permeate flow.
Easy to Install!

DEXTERTON
Dexterton Corporation
157 Sgt. E. Rivera St., Quezon City
Tel: 362-1111, 361-6006 Fax No: 362-0524
email: info@dexterton.com
website: www.dexterton.com

A Must-Attend Exhibit and Seminar
for Owners, Leaders, and Managers of:

Rural/Thrift Banks
Savings and Loans Associations
Cooperatives
Lending and Microfinance Institutions
Money Remittance Companies
Local Government Units (LGUs)

NATIONLINK
"Linking the Nation, Transforming Lives"

July 6, 2006 • 9AM - 7PM
Rizal Ballroom, Makati Shangri-La Hotel

See and experience the latest technologies and financial networks that will transform your industry

Platinum Sponsor: INFOSERVE INCORPORATED The Banking Software Authority
Gold Sponsors: intel Microsoft PLDT
Silver Sponsor: DIEBOLD

For inquiries, call Rose at 8176630, 8187981, 8929641 or
email nationlink@nationlinkonline.com

NEO
OWNING THE FUTURE TODAY

ERRATUM

In the June 26, 2006 Issue of Philippine Daily Inquirer, the information on the NEO Endura 320SL advertisement was erroneous. It contains the following incorrect text:

"Connect wirelessly to the Internet.

Do instant video conferencing via built-in web cam.

Be more organized and productive with Genuine Microsoft Windows XP Home and Microsoft Works productivity suite".

The said advertisement must not contain the following text.

We are very sorry for any inconvenience brought about by this.

For more information, dial 633-NEO2 (633-6362) / E-Mail mktg@neo.com.ph

We can't meet SC deadline–Ombudsman

THE OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN HAS told the Supreme Court it might not meet the June 30 deadline set by the high court to act on the Mega Pacific election modernization deal as it needs to investigate the case further.

In an urgent manifestation to the SC, the Ombudsman's Office of Legal Affairs said Ombudsman Merceditas Gutierrez had found "sufficient grounds for the conduct of further investigation" to determine any criminal liability on the part of the Commission on Elections officials which concluded the deal with Mega Pacific consortium in April 2003.

The high tribunal nullified in January 2004 the P1.3-billion contract for Mega Pacific to supply the Comelec with counting machines because of violations of the bidding rules.

On May 3, it directed the Office of the Ombudsman "under pain of contempt" to report by June 30 its final determination on the case. *Nelson F. Flores*

English a la Behn Cervantes taught in Baguio

BAGUIO CITY—Three Baguio universities are testing a three-unit English appreciation course designed by theater artist Behn Cervantes, the Commission on Higher Education (CHEd) said here on Monday.

Magdalena Jasmin, CHEd Cordillera director, said Cervantes' English Language Immersion Zone (ELIZ) is essentially a speech class that uses drama to engage the attention of students.

It requires students' absolute concentration when plays or essays are performed or discussed for five hours in a Saturday or Sunday session.

"They are required to interact by answering questions during or right after a particular English language piece is explored by Cervantes himself or by his teaching assistants," Jasmin said.

Cervantes' language courses at the University of Baguio, the University of the Cordilleras and the Saint Louis University will run throughout the semester.

Jasmin introduced the experimental course as a potential English training alternative to the export industry players of the Cordillera and the Ilocos, during a conference here on the national export plan.

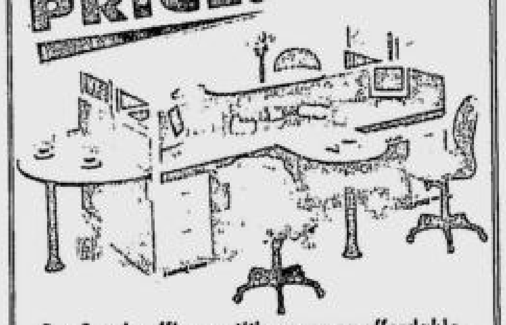
She said Cervantes and the Department of Labor and Employment approached CHEd about the course module in May, after Cervantes realized that a similar one-month crash course he was implementing here for potential employees of call centers was not enough to raise English language aptitude.

Cervantes had been a key training adviser since 2005 of the Traces project. *Vincent Cabreza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

idec®
AIRCONDITION
The New Split Type Aircon
Wall-Mounted
1hp-P16,500
1.5hp-P18,500, 2hp-P25,000, 2.5hp-P30,000
Floor Mounted
3hp-P39,500 5hp-P55,000
Free Installation!
Call:2432610,2414731
Available@MC Fort, Makati & Ortigas
Cebu-(032)3465498 Davao-(082)2358821

IWATA TIME RECORDER
Durable & Reliable
MORE THAN 20 YEARS IN THE MARKET NOW
←P9,800
E-2A
2Color Printing
Red for Late
Black for Punctual
Operates during Brown-outs
P7,600→
2CWB
SP - 900
Built-in Battery with printing optionsLarge Illuminated Window Automatic Adjustment
P15,900
STAMPING MACHINE
FOR MONTH, DATE, YEAR, AM - PM, TIME AND COMPANY NAME
IWATA U48 CROSS CUT
PAPER SHREDDER
P6,700
Cross-cut size 3x25mm
Thermal overload protection
Cuts clips,staples & cards
Sole Distributor:
COLENT ENTERPRISE CO.
Tels.: 412-4317, 740-3815, 742-8139 to 42, 411-2396 to 98
Fax 411-2399 Email: colent@pldtdsl.net

COPIERS Sales/Rentals
RICOH • Canon • Olivetti • Savin
Also Available : LIQUID COPIERS
P11,000. ONLY
POWDER TYPE FT 3320 15 CPM
BRAND NEW CANON R 1210 BEST FOR BUS
P 39,950. ONLY
P 20,000. ONLY
BRAND NEW CANON FC 290 FOR PERSONAL USE
P 15,000. ONLY
RECON RICOH FT 3813 BEST FOR BUSINESS
PARTS & SUPPLIES AVAILABLE FOR MOST COPIER BRANDS.
COPYTRADE
Copytrade Bldg 550 MF Jhocson St Sampaloc, Manila (Beside Nat'l Univ)
Tels. 749-8155 to 56
781-3472 • 749-8216
www.copytrade.com.ph
• RINGBINDERS / LAMINATORS
• CUTTERS/BLUEPRINT/RISO
• FAX MACHINES, ETC.
• ACCEPT COPIER RENTALS FOR SHORT EVENTS
• BUY/TRADE-IN OLD COPIERS

HALF PRICE!
SPACIO
home and office design

Our Spacio office partitions are so affordable - you would think they were half-priced!
CALL US.
MODULAR METAL PHILIPPINES,INC.
86 East Drive St., Parang, Marikina City
Tels.: 948-7729, 948-7730
Telefax: 942-1363
E-mail: spacio888@yahoo.com

PSID
Philippine School of Interior Design
2240 Chino Roces Ave. (Pasong Tamo) Makati City
CONSIDERING A CAREER IN INTERIOR DESIGN?
PSID offers Basic and Advanced Level courses taught in a relevant manner by actively practicing design professionals.
COURSES OFFERED
Elements and Principles of Design / Mechanical Drawing / Color Theory / Freehand Drawing / History of Art and Architecture / Perspective / Materials and Methods / Furniture Styles / Color Rendering / Ergonometrics and Space Planning / Decorative Arts / Interior Design / Basic & Advanced CADD / Trends in Interior Design / Research Methods / Interior Architecture / Residential Design / Commercial Design / Restaurant Design / Specialized Interiors / Ethics / Interior Design Workshop / Advanced Utilities / Marketing / Management / Accounting / Seminars / Independent Study
ENROLLMENT NOW ONGOING
Classes start week of June 28-30, 2006
For inquiries call 819-1197, 819-1201

David-Link "Your No.1 Choice in Office Automation Machines" KITANO
BUNDY CLOCKS • Two-color printing • Programmable Melody • Auto-Column Shifting
CHECK WRITERS • 14-Digit with calculator • 16 Currencies • Embossed printing
TIME-STAMPING MACHINE • Prints Company Initials • Up to 6 Digits Numbering • Adjustable Printing Position
BILL COUNTERS • Counterfeit Detector • Auto-Start/Stop • With External Display
LAMINATORS • Adjustable Temperature • Forward & Reverse Control • 4 Heavy Duty Rubber Rollers
WIRE & PLASTIC BINDERS • Up to 500 sheets binding capacity • Up to 25 sheets punching capacity • Up to 24 holes
PAPER SHREDDERS • Silent Operation • Heavy Duty • Auto-Reverse on Paper Jam
MIMEOGRAPHING MACHINE • 120 copies per minute • Electric & Manual Operation • Adjustable Printing Position
HEAVY DUTY PUNCHERS • Can punch up to 500 sheets • Selectable punching width
CALL NOW! 8905310 • 8905320 • 8905327 8967764 • 8983431 • 8983432
E-mail: davidlink_mla@yahoo.com
Website: www.nlboworld.com.sg

LEASING OR LEASE TO OWN
Ice Makers and Chicken Rotisseries
As low as 6,000.00 / month!
12 Chickens 18 Chickens 24 Chickens
merit CHICKEN ROTISSERIES
Amazing Money Making Machines!
KATSUNO Ice Makers
700 lbs. or 500 lbs. / Day Capacity
Visit us at: Pilipinas Hino Building
EDSA corner Madison St.,
Mandaluyong City
Tel. no.: (632) 633-8752 to 53

Ilocos Sur Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Santiago, Ilocos Sur

INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION TO BID

The Ilocos Sur Electric Cooperative, Inc. (ISECO) invites qualified bidders for the long-term supply of the ISECO's power requirements commencing in the year 2010.

Interested parties shall submit their company profile, duly notarized authorized representative and primary contact person to:

THE GENERAL MANAGER
Ilocos Sur Electric Cooperative, Inc
Bigbiga, Santiago, Ilocos Sur

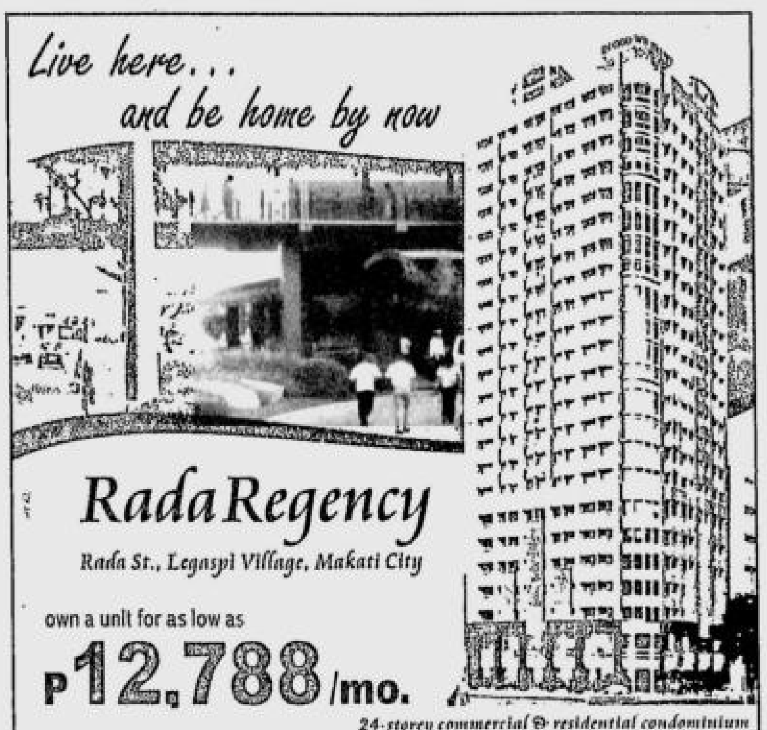
Starting June 28, 2006 until July 25, 2006.

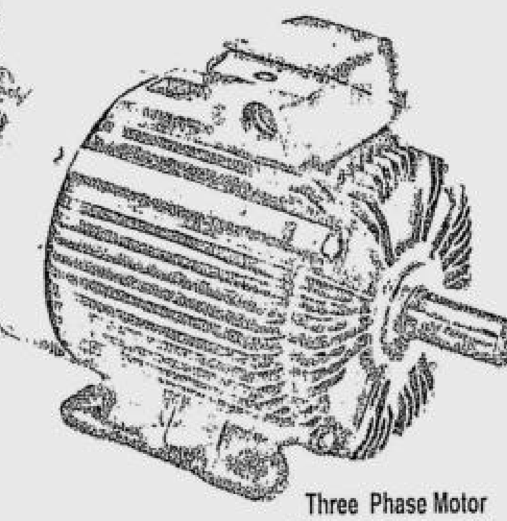
Only those qualified by the PBAC shall be invited to bid.

(Sgd.) CESAR G. GIRONELLA
General Manager

(PDI-June 28 & 29, 2006)

NDT Inspectors
"Explore the many job oppurtunities in other Countries"
Are you looking for a job local and abroad?
Oil and Gas Industry? Construction? Aviation and Shipbuilding? Power Industry? Welding & Fabrication? Mining & Drilling? Cement Plants? Preventive Maintenance? and many more industries?
Start developing your testing & inspection skills by attending our Technical Training Course offerings on
Nondestructive Testing (NDT)
Only a select few Filipinos have the NDT skills to qualify working abroad.
Train now!!!
Call or Visit us at:
APEX ENGINEERING SERVICES
Primrose Bldg Unit C Rosa Ave Pilar Vill Almanza Las Piñas City
Phone (02) 800-3025 * (02) 805-6814 * Fax (02) 806-5080
Email apexeng@pldtdsl.net * apexengservices@yahoo.com
Useful NDT websites: www.
asnt.org * bindt.org * csndt.org * ndt.org * ndt-ed.org * heliendt.com *lavender-ndt.co.uk * setsco.com * poea.gov.ph (click Job Vacancies)

Live here... and be home by now

RadaRegency
Rada St., Legaspi Village, Makati City
own a unit for as low as
P12,788/mo.
24-storey commercial & residential condominium
CITYLAND
Leading Condominium Developer Presidential Awardee
2005 CNBC Asia Business Leader Awards Honor Roll (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia)
812-2222 243-6565 818-8888 241-1894 cityland.net

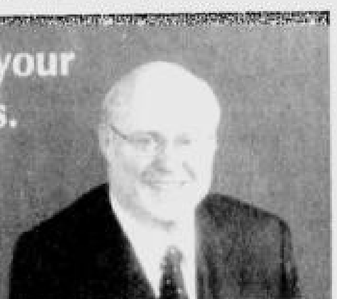
MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC
Changes for the Better
MITSUBISHI
ELECTRIC MOTORS

By water jet test from all direction, Mitsubishi standard IP55 has proven that its structure could prevent dust and water from entering the motor. Thus, it is suitable for outdoor or dusty sites
Three Phase Motor
SF-J/SF-JR
1/2 HP up to 125 HP
TEFC, Class F Insulation, IP55, JIS, IEC Standard
The pride of electric motors
Mitsubishi Electric Motor brings the highest quality motors suitable for any application. It boasts of IP55 classification which proves to be protected against water jets (hose-proof) and dust deposit, thus a highly efficient and smooth operation from start to finish It also has low noise level and shows safe and enhanced braking performance
• High-Efficiency • Light weight • Compact • Easy Installation
• Low vibration • Low noise • Resistance to rust
Other Models Available: Single Phase Motor 1/4 HP to 5 HP
Sales Service Spare Parts
For particulars, call: (02)244-6185, 2423401. Fax (02)2433967
P.O. Box 2851 Manila. E-mail: leotieng@yekyeu.com. Cel.. 0917-8439441

FOR ALL YOUR AUTO REPAIR AND SERVICE NEEDS...
NAME IT! WE'VE GOT IT!
Anson Auto Service Center
LOWEST PRICE YOU EXPECT IN THE TIME YOU WANT
DRIVE IN FOR A CHECK-UP!
SEE THE DIFFERENCE AND FEEL THE RESULTS.
ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED
AYALA CENTER, A. ARNAIZ AVENUE (FORMERLY PASAY ROAD), CORNER WEST DRIVE, MAKATI CITY
8922212 • 8922213 • 8922214
8867552 • 8867551

A. ARNAIZ AVE. (FORMERLY PASAY ROAD)
THIS WAY
ANSON AUTO SERVICE CENTER
ANSON EMPORIUM
AYALA BUS TERMINAL
PARKING
PARKING
WEST DRIVE
PARK SQUARE 2
MAKATI AVENUE
THIS WAY
OPEN MONDAY TO SUNDAY

Opportunity knocks but once.
Read it every Sunday with the Philippine Daily Inquirer.
www.jobmarketonline.com
JOB Market

Searching for the American Dream?

We have answers to all of your U.S. immigration questions.
• more than 25 years of experience
• committed to excellence
• backed by a team of immigration experts and professionals
• practice devoted exclusively to U.S. immigration and nationality laws

ATTY. ROBERT L. REEVES
Board Certified Immigration Law Specialist by the California State Bar
We make success stories happen every day.
Call us now at TOLL-Free Number 1-800-10-7733-837 or visit www.rreeves.com
(For Manila Residents (2) 759-6777)
REEVES & ASSOCIATES
Your Immigration Solution
MANILA
6767 AYALA AVENUE SUITE 507
MAKATI CITY PHILIPPINES
LOS ANGELES
SAN FRANCISCO
SAN FRANCISCO CA USA
LAS VEGAS

AFP officers may face court martial for coup plot

By Dona Pazzibugan

A COURT MARTIAL, OR SOME other form of disciplinary action, awaits military officers implicated in a failed coup plot last Feb. 24 which led to a declaration of a week-long state of emergency.

A fact-finding board investigating the failed plot will be announcing its report before Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Generoso Senga retires on July 21, according to a military official privy to the investigation.

"The report will definitely include recommendations for disciplinary actions," either through a general court martial or civilian court, or before the Separation and Efficiency Board, said the official who asked not to be named.

The board, headed by Armed Forces Inspector General Rear Admiral Rufino Lopez, began its hearings in April.

The investigation has focused on the activities last February of least 28 Army and Marine officers.

The government has purged the military brass and filed charges of rebellion and attempted coup d'etat against a number of opposition political figures in February after accusing the officers and politicians of attempting to topple President Macapagal-Arroyo.

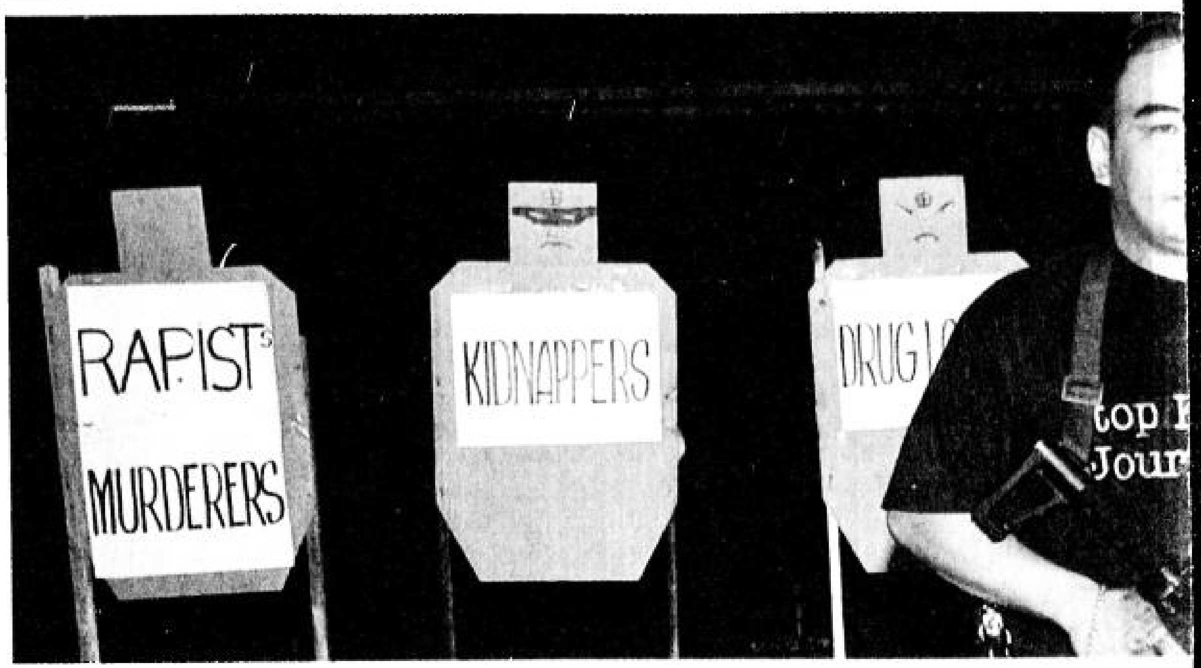
The highest ranking officer to be purged was Brig. Gen. Danilo Lim, who was sacked from his post as commander of the elite Scout Rangers.

The fact-finding board reviewed the findings of an earlier investigation by the Army Inspector General Brig. Gen. Frederick Bocobo which recommended the trial of Lim and 27 officers and men before a military court.

The board also investigated Col. Ariel Querubin who led the Feb. 26 stand-off at the Marine headquarters to protest the relief of the Marine Commandant, Maj. Gen. Renato Miranda, who was linked to the Feb. 24 plot.

Lim and Querubin are restricted to quarters in Fort Bonifacio and Camp Aguinaldo.

The two allegedly planned to lead a contingent of Scout Rangers and Marines to join anti-government rallies at EDSA and withdraw support from Ms Arroyo.



SHOOTING GALLERY
A member of the Volunteers Against Crime and Corruption (VACC) sets up the targets in a fire drill of gun adv
Francisco del Monte in Quezon City. It is not vigilantism in the wake of the repeal of the death penalty law, acco
awareness that they are ready to defend themselves and their families against criminals.

Negros peasant leader shot dead

BACOLOD CITY—A PEASANT LEADER WAS shot dead by two unidentified gunmen in Sagay City, about 83 kilometers north of here, on Monday night.

Wilfredo Cornea, 49 and a father of three, suffered gunshot wounds in the head and neck, police said.

Cornea was vice president of the Mulawin-Lanatan Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries Association (Mularba), a peasant group affiliated with the Task Force Mapalad in Negros Occidental province.

He was the ninth victim of an agrarian-related killing in the province and the third this year, according to Lanie Factor, TFM campaign advocacy officer.

Rico Adeva was killed in April and Mario Domingo in May, said Factor.

Cornea was one of 106 beneficiaries of the 212-hectare Haciendas Mulawin and Lanatan, formerly known as Hacienda Luisita here.

Aquiles Lopez, the owner of the property, has been opposed to his land coming under the coverage of the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program in 2000, said Factor.

Police investigators said Cornea was in his backyard at Hacienda Mulawin at about 9 p.m. on Sunday when he was shot by two masked men.

His wife, Nenita, rushed out when she heard two gunshots. She saw the two gunmen fleeing the scene.

Factor said other witnesses had seen the two gunmen escaping in the direction of the guardhouse tower near the hacienda compound.

A witness, whose identity was withheld for security reasons, said she encountered the fleeing suspects, and claimed that one was armed with a .45 caliber pistol. *Carla P. Gomez, PDI Visayas Bureau*

Luisita files own petition

By Blanche S. Rivera

THE HACIENDA LUISITA INC. (HLI) HAS submitted to the government a petition signed by farm workers claiming to be beneficiaries of the Luisita stock scheme to retain the scheme in the hacienda owned by the family of former president Corazon Aquino.

The petition, written in Filipino, had 167 signatures from former barangays officials and "big family leaders" in all ten barangays comprising Hacienda Luisita.

The petition, received by the Department of Agrarian Reform on June 7, completely contradicted the complaint lodged by more than 3,000 farmers in 2003 that eventually led to the revocation of the stock distribution option (SDO) agreement in Luisita last year.

The petitioners said they have received all the benefits of employees under the HLI, including salaries, loans, medical insurance, and so much more than what is required under the law.

DAR legal counsel Delfin Samson furnished the members of the Alyansa ng mga Manggagawang Bukid sa Asyenda Luisita (AMBALA) a copy of the petition during a dialogue yesterday.

AMBALA counsel Jobert Pahilga said the group would file a formal comment and submit affidavits from the real farm workers attesting that the signatories in the petition were not employed by HLI.

"The signatories are not legitimate farm workers. We will ask (Undersecretary Narciso) Nieto to verify the signatures," Pahilga said.

The Supreme Court issued a temporary restraining order against the DAR's revocation of the SDO and distribution of the 4,915-ha hacienda two weeks ago.

The DAR, which was set to give the first 1,000 has. of the sugar land in time for the 18th anniversary of the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program this month, is appealing the decision.

"Gusto ko tropa time, ALL THE TIME!"

Bakit hindi? Posible 'yan sa

Globe MOBILE TAMBAYAN

LAHAT ng service na pang-konek
sa tropa, NARITO NA!

Just text TAMBAYAN to 2754!
Rate: P1.00

Create your very own blo
Puwedeng i-update
SMS, MMS, WAP and W
Text HELP to 2815 fo

Text-one, text-all ang dating 'pag
sariling message board ang g
Text RESERVE TG <text group name> to 2
Rate:

Always mong ka-KC ang mga ka-friendste
sa anytime ac
Text FRIENDSTER to 2
Rate:

I-message all the time ang
naka-online mong ka-
Text REG <last name>, <first name> to 2
Rate:

B 1 of us! Mag-GENTX
Text GENTXT to 2277 for

TERRORISTS

cates at the PB Dionisio shooting range in San
rding to the group. The exercise, it said, is to show
JOAN BONDOC

SC sanctions 5 erring judges

By Leila B. Salaverria

THE SUPREME COURT HAS PENALIZED five Baguio City judges, dismissing one for immorality for siring children with a woman not his wife, fining three others for playing the card game *pusoy*, a variation of poker, in the court premises, and fining a fifth for accepting favors from a defendant in a civil case he was hearing.

Two of the judges chastised for gambling were also fined for disobeying a SC circular against allowing interpreters to take part in ex-parte hearings (without the presence of the other party in a dispute), and for engaging in a business deal that could give rise to a conflict-of-interest situation.

Judge Clarence Villanueva was dismissed from the service for siring two children with another woman despite being married. The SC also forfeited his retirement benefits and barred his future appointment to any public office.

The complaint against Villanueva was filed by a colleague, Judge Ruben Ayson. The SC said he was found to have fathered two children by Emy Tumaneng, identified in Ayson's complaint as Villanueva's "mistress."

Villanueva denied knowing Tumaneng or being the father of her two children.

But the high court said Villanueva failed to substantiate his defense.

"The Code of Judicial Ethics mandates that the conduct of a judge must be free of a whiff of impropriety not only with respect to his discharge of judicial duties, but also to his behavior outside his sala and as a private individual," the high tribunal said.

"The charge of immorality proven against Judge Villanueva demonstrates his unfitness to remain in office and continue to discharge the functions of a judge," it said.

The SC fined Judges Abraham Borreta, Amado Caguioa and Antonio Esteves P2,000 each for playing *pusoy* in court premises.

A similar charge against Villanueva was dismissed.

Ayson had accused the four of gambling and drinking in Borreta's chambers during office hours three times in 2001.

Borreta, Caguioa and Esteves admitted to playing *pusoy* in one instance on Sept. 27, 2001, during a send-off party for Borreta who was being transferred to Pasig. Caguioa said the card game was played for fun and after office hours.

Villanueva denied having gambled and drank during office hours.

But the SC said that while the card game may have been "for fun," they used the court premises for this pastime, thus adding an inappropriate dimension to what would have otherwise been "an insignificant isolated event."

The SC also fined Judge Antonio Reyes P30,000 for accepting favors from the president of the Baguio Country Club Corp. The club is a defendant in a civil case filed by Ramon Ilusorio and being heard by Reyes.

Reyes was censured for allowing his bill with the club to be charged to the account of the club's president Federico Agcaoili. The SC said it was not far-fetched that the favor would influence the judge's decision in the Ilusorio case.

Caguioa was also fined P10,000 for allowing his court interpreter to receive evidence in two adoption cases, in violation of an SC circular.

Caguioa said he did not find this irregular as he was present during the proceedings.

Borreta was also fined P2,000 for entering into an agreement to sell the property of Purita Llorente, who had pending cases in the Baguio courts relating to her properties.

Borreta said the property involved was outside the jurisdiction of the Baguio courts.

DENR voids sulfur-laden boat's permit

By Blanche S. Rivera and Leila B. Salaverria

ENVIRONMENT SECRETARY ANGELO T. Reyes has cancelled a shipping vessel's license to transport hazardous materials after its barge, loaded with 1,270 tons of sulfuric acid, sank off Batangas Bay on Saturday.

The Billy Star vessel had run aground between Sibuyan Island and Romblon en route to Manila on June 4 and was brought to the Keppel shipyard in Barangay San Miguel in Bauan for repairs. But on June 24, a portion of its barge, which was allegedly corroded, sank into the sea carrying with it four bullet tanks of sulfuric acid.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources was conducting an investigation to determine the extent of environmental damage.

An initial report from the DENR region 4A revealed that despite fears raised by local and environment officials, there had been no sulfuric acid leakage into the bay.

DENR regional executive director Antonio G. Principe said the pH level, which would indicate acidity, and the temperature of the water surrounding the submerged barge, were still normal.

Tests done by the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) at 8:30 a.m. yesterday showed that the bay's pH level was 7 and still within the normal range of 6.5 to 8.

The temperature was 30 degrees centigrade, which was also below the "dangerous level" of 35 degrees centigrade, said Principe, who visited the site yesterday.

"We're monitoring these important parameters, but right now, there's no leakage of sulfuric acid yet. There has also been no report of fish kills," Principe told the INQUIRER in a phone interview.

Reyes directed the Environmental Management Bureau to review the viability of requiring all vessels which transport hazardous materials to get environmental insurance. This would guarantee a fund for any cleanup or rehabilitation following any accidents.

The PCG, meanwhile, warned that the bullet tanks of liquid sulfuric acid was "highly corrosive" and "highly reactive."

They should be salvaged and disposed of to avoid the risk of explosion, PCG spokesperson Lt. Commander Joseph Coyme told the INQUIRER.

Just protecting our patent—Pfizer

PFIZER SAID IT HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO PURsue a suit against the Philippine International Trading Corp. (PITC), the Bureau of Food and Drug (BFAD) and its officers to protect its patent rights over an anti-hypertensive medication that would expire in June 2007.

Recent reports that the company filed the suit to extend its patent were inaccurate and misrepresent the true intent of the company's legal action, said Pfizer in a statement sent to the INQUIRER.

"This is simply a matter of protecting, not extending, our patent for amlodipine besylate through its expiration data. Protecting intellectual property rights is critical to the research and development process and the safety of patients," Pfizer stressed.

The patent infringement suit filed on March 1, 2006, was meant to prevent PITC from marketing, distributing and selling Pfizer's patented compound amlodipine besylate, marketed under the brand name Norvasc.

The pharmaceutical firm said the lawsuit was necessary as BFAD had approved PITC's request to begin importing the patented compound as early as December 2005, despite knowledge of the validity of Pfizer's patent over amlodipine besylate until June 2007.

"Pfizer has made many attempts to resolve this matter amicably," said Ramon S. Esguerra, external legal counsel for Pfizer. "However, these requests have gone unheeded. Our only option at this point is to bring the matter to court."

Pfizer also said that PITC was importing its amlodipine besylate from unauthorized sources in India and Pakistan when it could have chosen from nearly 200 other off-patent anti-hypertensive medicines currently available in the Philippine market.

ogs.
via
EB.
FREE

G BLOGS

Get FREE exciting info and news about your hobbies and interests.

Go to Globe Services menu, click G-Live, and click Activate.

*This service requires G-Live capable 64k and 128k SIM cards

NEW! G LIVE

may
upo.
355
2.50

TXTGROUP

Unlimited na ang bonding dahil permanent na ang service na 'to!

Text UNLIMITXT to 2870 for FREE

Globe UNLIMITXT

r mo
ess.
276
2.50

friendster Mobile

No need to memorize download keywords dahil may mapagtatanungan ka.

Text <your question> to 2754

Rate: ₱1.00

AskG 2754

mga
hat.
371
2.50

Globe instant messenger

The more, the merrier at the more sulit ang naka-bundle na downloads.

Text TIPID DLOADS to 2754

Rate: ₱1.00

tipid DOWNLOADS

NA!
REE

gentxt

Isali na ang banda sa kakaibang road-to-fame na ito.

Text KANTA to 2346 for FREE

Globe

sa'n ka pa tatambay, e ang lakas mo sa Globe

ISSN 0116-2642 INQUIRER Vol. 21 No. 200

Email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph website: http://www.inq7.net
Text us your feedback: inquirer opi name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

THE PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER, INC. has its business and editorial offices at
•Chino Roces Ave corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City
•P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City
•Our telephone numbers are 897-8808 connecting all departments
•Editorial Fax 897-4793 / 897-4794 •Advertising 897-4807
•Circulation 527-3342 / 527-3348 / 528-0183 / 528-0186 and 528-0213 / Fax: 528-02-34.
•Subscription Hotline 896-6000

OPINION

Detailed charges

EDITORIAL

LAST YEAR, THE PUBLIC'S DESIRE TO GET TO the bottom of highly damaging allegations concerning the legitimacy of President Macapagal-Arroyo was wrecked. This was because of a combination of sloppy lawyering by people like Oliver Lozano and procedural sleight-of-hand on the part of the President's partisans in the committee on justice of the House of Representatives.

The sloppy lawyering resulted in an overly broad and insufficiently detailed impeachment complaint, further muddled by the circumstances surrounding its filing (and other complaints eventually filed). The procedural sleight-of-hand was in the form of the House never actually tackling the charges, but deciding that procedurally the complaints could not be entertained, period.

The other day, a new impeachment complaint was filed against Ms Arroyo. In contrast to the idiosyncratic efforts of Lozano, the new complaint was crafted over a long period of study by a battery of lawyers and thorough discussion among those who decided to initiate it, all of them citizens who decided to take the matter out of the hands of the politicians until the constitutionally ordained time for their intervention.

The President's lawyer, Romulo Macalintal, immediately responded that the new complaint was merely a rehash of the old charges, which is similar to claiming that a comic book featuring "Ivanhoe" is the same as Sir Walter Scott's novel of the same name. Whether viewing the charges in their summary form (three broad points), or reading the 11-page detailed complaints (25 pages including notarizations and annexes) signed by the citizen-complainants, it is clear that in contrast to last year's efforts, this year's complaint avoids relying solely on controversial recordings, or a very broad and potentially unprovable enumeration of circumstances.

The first accusation is that Ms Arroyo "directed or allowed" fraud in the 2004 elections. The allegations are that aside from vote-buying and tampering with election documents, vote-padding and vote-shaving were carried out in Cebu, Pampanga, Iloilo, Bohol and the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao—allegations that the House can ask to be spelled out in detail. Allegations of illegal use of government resources, including funds budgeted for other purposes and the fertilizer scam, can also be detailed. Charges of impropriety in both appointing Virgilio Garcillano and engaging in "unlawful correspondence" with him for the purpose of massaging votes as well as allegations that the Armed Forces was used for fraud and that election returns in the House's custody were switched are not based entirely on the tapes. Instead, they bring to the fore behavior and testimony detailed in the media and other forums.

The second broad charge alleges that an official cover-up rivaling, if not exceeding the Watergate conspiracy of Richard Nixon, took place in response to the public disclosure of the Garci tapes. From the official handling of the controversy to executive decisions and issuances meant to impede investigative efforts and thwart public expressions of opposition as well as media coverage, the catalogue of offenses to the Constitution and democratic processes is extensive and damning.

Allegations of human rights violations revolve around the President's refusal to investigate or discipline Maj. Gen. Jovito Palparan as well as her approval of the illegal arrest and detention of her critics.

Finally, there are detailed accusations of tax evasion and concealment of assets at home and abroad, including property, accounts and businesses, as well as charges of graft and corruption in connection with the conclusion of contracts disadvantageous to the state.

House Majority Floor Leader Prospero Nograles belabors the obvious when he reminds everyone that impeachment is both a "numbers game" and a "political process." But the question is: Is the House prepared to scrutinize the allegations, or will it view politics merely as an excuse to once more ignore a complaint that lacks the procedural defects that marred the previous one?

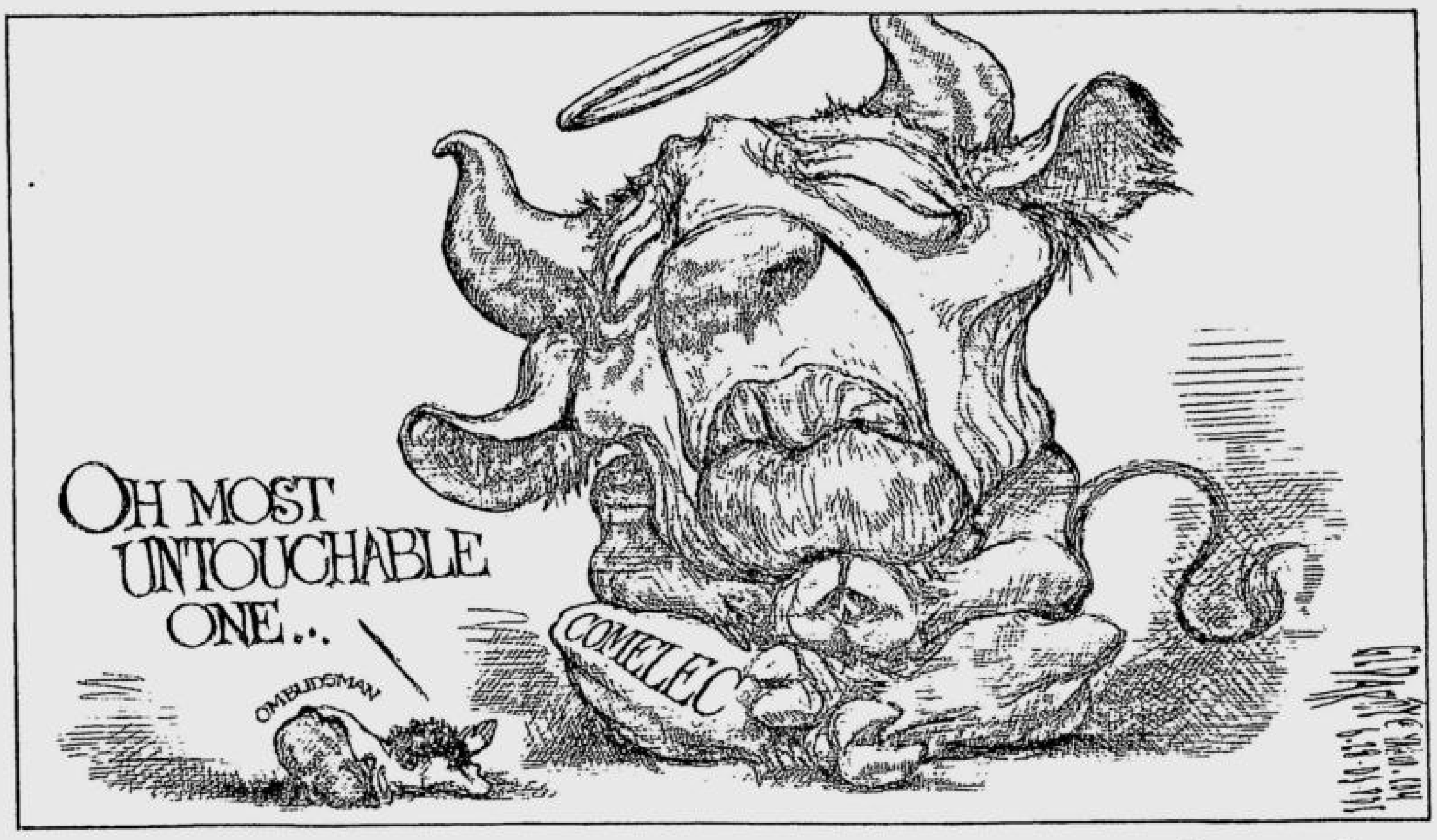
The bar on sending the complaint to the Senate for trial has been lowered a notch. With Rolando Andaya and Ronaldo Puno joining the Cabinet, House officials say the signatures required to endorse the complaint has gone down to 78 from last year's 79. But even a much lower number would be hard to come by if congressmen refuse to read, much less carefully examine, the complaint.

Publisher ISAGANI YAMBOT
Editor in Chief LETTY JIMENEZ-MAGSANOC
Managing Editor JOSE MA. D. NOLASCO
Associate Editor ABELARDO S. ULANDAY
Associate Editor for Readership ROSARIO A. GARCELLANO
News Editor ARTEMIO T. ENGRACIA JR. • *Chief, News Day Desk* NILO B. PAUROM
Opinion Editor JORGE V. ARUTA
National Editor PERGENTINO B. BANDAYREL JR.
Senior Desk Editor JUAN V. SARMIENTO JR.
Editorial Consultant AMANDO DORONILA
Chief Photographer ERNIE U. SARMIENTO
Art & Design Director LYNETT A. VILLARIBA

Board Chairman MARIXI R. PRIETO
President ALEXANDRA PRIETO-ROMUALDEZ
Executive Vice President DAVID O. VALDES
Senior Vice President for Sales and Marketing RENATO R. REINOSO
VP for Advertising FELIPE R. OLARTE
AVP for Circulation SANDY SIMON R. YAP

Readers' Advocate LORNA KALAW TIROL
readersadvocate@inquirer.com.ph • Tel. No. 897 8808, Loc. 342

All rights reserved. Except as permitted by law, no part of the Philippine Daily Inquirer may be reproduced or distributed in any form or by any means stored in a database or retrieval system without its prior written permission.



GMA dodging new impeachment on a technicality

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

BEGINNING LAWYERS ARE USUALLY GIVEN two pieces of advice by the veterans. The first is: If the facts are on your side, pound on the facts; and if they are against you, pound on the table. The second is: If you cannot win a case on the merits, try to win it on a technicality.

It is the second that President Macapagal-Arroyo's lawyer, Romulo Macalintal, is using to thwart a second impeachment complaint against his client. A new impeachment complaint cannot be filed at this time, he said, because the issue on the first complaint remains unresolved by the Supreme Court. A new complaint will still be within the one-year prohibition provided by the Constitution, according to him.

I don't agree. First, the first impeachment complaint has already been dismissed by the House of Representatives, so the issue in the Supreme Court has become academic. That's what the defenders of GMA have been saying: the impeachment complaint is dead and buried. But now that the opposition and a private group are set to file new complaints, Macalintal is resurrecting a "dead issue."

Second, the complainants are not filing the old charges. They are filing new violations of the Constitution committed by the President after the first impeachment complaint was filed last year. It is similar to a burglar who has been charged with theft. While that case is still pending, he commits another burglary, so he is charged again for theft. He cannot plead double jeopardy because the two crimes are different and independent of each other. So he is charged twice. And if he is convicted in both, he would be punished for both.

Similarly, GMA is sought to be impeached this year not on the basis of crimes committed before, which are the subject of the old complaint. She is being charged now for violations committed after the old complaint had been filed and dismissed. I think that is not included in the prohibition intended by the framers of the 1986 Constitution. That provision prohibits the filing of more than one impeachment complaint within one year. It was intended to prevent the President from being harassed by nuisance suits.

But I do not think that the intention is also to prohibit the filing of a new complaint because a court has not resolved a case on a technicality that has become academic. If it is otherwise, what is to prevent the lawyers of the President from filing numerous petitions and motions with the courts to keep the case alive and prevent the filing of a new impeachment complaint?

As for nuisance suits, the new complaint is far from being one. The Supreme Court itself has declared three of the President's actions as violations of the Constitution.

Are the lawyers of GMA afraid that the facts are against their client so that they are trying to win the case again on a technicality? From the very beginning of the cases against her, from the Garci tapes to other violations of the Constitution, GMA has avoided facing the issues squarely and answering them. Instead she evaded them on technicalities and through the force of numbers in the House. That is not the normal behavior of an innocent person. That is the behavior of a guilty one. An innocent person wants to face her accusers immediately so she can prove them wrong. A guilty one tries every trick to avoid a confrontation.

* * *

If the people pushing Charter change really only want a unicameral legislature, they should support the proposal to abolish the House of Representatives, instead of the Senate. Those opposed to Cha-cha at present will quickly make an about-face if the congressmen will be dismissed. What's more, GMA's war against corruption will already be half-won if the House is erased. For about half of the taxes lost due to corruption pass through the hands of congressmen. A big chunk of that is left in their pockets.

Funds stolen through the pork barrel in various disguises amount to billions of pesos. Those are funds snatched, in the form of taxes, from the mouths of the poor to fatten congressmen. Contrary to popular belief, the stink you smell when you go to the Batasan does not come from the nearby Payatas dump, it comes from the souls of corrupt congressmen.

Why do congressmen insist on being miniature departments of public works and highways by specifying what public works projects to put up in their districts and choosing the contractors to build them? According to the Constitution, their duty is to enact laws, not to be de facto secretaries of public works. The Constitution has assigned that job to a Cabinet member. Why do they insist on usurping the job of the public works secretary and his engineers? I think you already know that there are hundreds of millions of answers to that.

We would save billions of pesos every year if the House is abolished, not only from the pork barrel funds saved but from the salaries, allowances and other expenses of the congressmen. Not much would be saved by abolishing the Senate because there are much fewer senators, and at least four of them have already eschewed their pork barrel allocations. Besides, the glory of the Philippine Congress is brought about only by the Senate, by senators like Recto, Laurel, Tañada, Diokno, Sumulong. Who is the administration congressman we can be proud of? Nobody.

The most popular (to the congressmen) speakers are those with the fastest pen to sign checks and vouchers. That is why no speaker was ever elected president immediately after coming from the House. Deep in their hearts, the voters know what they are.

Still, more than ever, scary

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

IF I REMEMBER RIGHT, MANY FILIPINOS also waited for some kind of *deux ex machina*, a thunderbolt from heaven to strike Marcos to solve their problems then. And they were elated when the usurper-dictator was stricken with lupus. They waited for lupus to take its effect, but it never did. Not until much later anyway, when he was no longer in power. It wasn't lupus that did Marcos in, it was the people. Which was as heaven had always said it would be. It was writ in its very gates: God helps those who help themselves.

It's a good reminder for those who are currently waiting for a thunderbolt to strike GMA, or its equivalent in disease. At the very least, that is waiting for Godot, and Godot arrives only for those who do not wait. At the very most, because the thing that laid GMA low last week is not of the same order as lupus. It's worse. As my friend, Billy Esposo, texted me last weekend, St. Luke's Hospital withheld the real diagnosis of GMA's affliction. Written in the most scientific terms in medical scrawl, it said: "Patient is full of 's—t.'"

The comparisons with Marcos made me recall a couple of columns I wrote shortly before the last elections warning of where GMA was going. The first column was called "Scary," which came out on Feb. 23, 2004, and the second was called "More than ever, scary," which came out exactly a month later.

In the first column, I said GMA looked dead set to do another Marcos. "This is the part that scares the hell out of me. GMA has acted with this degree of unscrupulousness without a popular mandate... What would happen if by chance and more frenzied application of lying, cheating and stealing, she should get a second crack at power?" I said that if that happened, GMA, like Marcos, would never relinquish power but would do everything in her power to keep it.

This sparked an angry reaction from a reader who said surely I knew in my heart it wasn't true, GMA was no Marcos. I replied in the second column that I didn't just believe this to be true, "I feel it to the marrow of my bones... If I had any doubts then, I do not have them now... Hers is a dogged pursuit of power the likes of which we have not seen since Marcos. She has already pawned the present. She'll soon pawn the future—if she hasn't already."

From hindsight, I was slightly off the mark only in two respects. One was in saying if she won a second term by a more frenzied application of lying, cheating and stealing. She never did. I never imagined she would actually call Garci to rig the results. That is a scale of ruthlessness comparable to Marcos waiting in the bushes with a sniper's rifle for his father's enemy, Julio Nalundasan, to brush his teeth. Except that in this case, the victim is democracy, shot through its very heart.

The second was in saying GMA's is a dogged pursuit of power that has not been seen since Marcos. In fact, it hasn't been seen at any time in this country, the Marcos era included. Marcos at least was restrained by his lawyer's mind to found his atrocities on legal plausibility. GMA is not restricted by anything.

To this day, I do not know how it was possible for many of us to not have read this monumental danger that stared us in the face in 2004. The signs were everywhere, lit in neon. To this day, I do not know why many of those who now desperately seek to rid this country of her thought to prop her up to begin with. The only reason I can think of is that most of us completely underestimated what she was capable of. Our judgment was based on "natural expectation," on a belief that "she would not dare" go past universally accepted limits.

It was the same thing during Marcos' time. Marcos caught the country flat-footed when he declared martial law because, despite all the signs being there, most Filipinos, including the opposition, thought he "would never dare" do it. It just wasn't done. Well, true enough it wasn't done—by normal people for whom normal expectations applied. But what if you were dealing with someone who was ruthless enough to do the unthinkable? The country found out too late Marcos was one.

We're finding out too late GMA is one.

The normal expectation when GMA came to power was that she would be beholden to the people who put her there, especially as she had done little to earn it. A few months later, courtesy of 9/11, she dared tell the citizens they were either with her or against her. The normal expectation when GMA said she would not run again because of public disgust over her rule was that she wouldn't. Less than a year later, she dared run again, she dared bankrupt the treasury to campaign, and she dared steal the vote to win. She even dared say later God put her in Malacañang, as though God would be so mysterious as to try to sound like Garci.

The normal expectation when the "Hello Garci" tape surfaced and when Cory and some of her own people abandoned her was that she would resign. Instead she dared call the crime "a lapse in judgment" and clung to her position. The normal expectation when her approval plunged to unprecedented lows, the surveys saying 65 percent of the population wanted her ousted, was for her to go on the defensive. Instead she dared issue EO 464, CPR and PP 1017, which plunged the country into de facto dictatorship. The normal expectation when the killings of journalists and activists had reached slaughterhouse proportions and were being decried here and abroad was that she would rein in her murderous legions if only to score minor points. Instead, she has dared unleash a war that would not only sanction it but pile up the body count.

During Marcos' time, this was a country of one asshole and 65 million cowards. The only thing that's changed today is that we've become 88 million cowards.

People power in the parliamentary arena

ANALYSIS

Amando Doronila

BEFORE THE LAPSE OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL ban on filing multiple impeachment complaints against an official "within a year of each other," a group of citizens, smitten by civic conscience, filed with the House of Representatives a second impeachment complaint against President Macapagal-Arroyo following the dismissal by the House committee on justice of a consolidated complaint filed in July last year.

Whether or not the second complaint is covered by the ban, it gives Ms Arroyo the dubious distinction of being the President who attracted the most impeachment actions within a term, as well as the most coup attempts, rivaling the record of former President Corazon Aquino.

Also for the record, the second complaint was the first one to be initiated by a group of citizens from a broad cross-section of civil society, numbering at press time more than 200, unlike last year's complaint which was initiated by lawyers.

I wonder if this intervention by citizens' groups gives the complaint more chances of success than the previous complaint, which the administration party machine strangled in the House, blocking its endorsement to the Senate for trial.

The citizens' action cannot be faulted for lack of zeal and passion for self-righteousness, given that its members had a prayer vigil while waiting for the Cinderella hour to lapse so they would be first on the queue. Indeed, they beat some other enterprising lawyers to the draw, and House Secretary General Roberto Nazareno has acknowledged receipt of the complaint, saying he would promptly transmit it to Speaker Jose de Venecia before Congress reopens on July 24.

Thus, the citizens have now entered the parliamentary arena and their complaint has started a process whose outcome is far from certain. Given the political machinery into which they have fed their complaint, it bothers me to think that they could have just shoveled their complaint into the maw of Baal (the god to whom the Carthaginians offered their children for sacrifice to bless them in their epic military struggle with Rome in the Punic Wars).

The list containing the names of the more than 200 citizens who signed the complaint is impressive. It includes big names in the academic community, intellectuals and former high-ranking officials, along with high-profile perennial detractors of President Arroyo and leftist opponents of the regime, whose ranks are being decimated by the paramilitary death squads prompted by unseen hands.

By collecting a large number of signatures, the citizens' group is playing the numbers game to confront the political machine which killed the previous impeachment complaint. They have entered a bruising arena which is the home terrain of their foes who have their own ground rules and who can muster the numbers in a showdown. They are fighting on extremely disadvantageous grounds, where the slaughter of the complaint is almost certain. They are trying to storm a fortress without siege machines.

The citizens' initiative is a variation of people power, transferred from the venue of street protests to the parliamentary arena, but it is basically a reiteration, with a change of form, of the objective to oust President Arroyo by other means after coup attempts and the people power campaign failed.

One of the objectives of the complaint is to put closure to the election rigging issue stemming from the Garcillano tapes, an issue that is at the bottom of the legitimacy crisis hounding the Arroyo regime. I have no quarrel with the citizens' initiative in this objective and in using impeachment as a constitutional approach to lay this legitimacy issue to rest. During the impeachment proceedings last year, I argued that the House majority should not crush the complaint with its numbers, but instead send it to the Senate, and that the President should take a risk in the trial, which could have gone either way. Whatever the outcome of the vote in the Senate, it would have broken the stalemate over her legitimacy.

I did not share the jubilation of the President when the House voted to dismiss the impeachment complaint with 158 voting yes against 52 voting no on the motion upholding the committee on justice report to dismiss. "The Filipino people mark a glorious day in history, when instead of forcing a President out of office through people power, they chose to keep a President through voting in the halls of constitutional democracy," the President said. It was not a glorious day and it failed to break the impasse over the issue of legitimacy.

While the House vote was made within the rules of parliamentary democracy, what is more important is that the vote did not dissolve the issue of legitimacy. It merely sank the seed of the issue into fertile soil, only to germinate again when the proper climate comes. The new complaint represents the revival of an issue that has refused to be buried alive by the crushing weight of the majority in the House.

Much as I would like the new impeachment complaint to clear the House and to be transmitted to the Senate for trial for a definitive decision, I have doubts if it would fare differently from the previous complaint, given the unchanged configuration of political forces in Congress.

My misgivings stem from: first, the content of the expanded new impeachment complaint; second, the seemingly sloppy construction of the articles of impeachment by their initiators; and third, the delusion of the initiators that the number of signature puts sufficient weight to push the complaint beyond the House.

I shall amplify on these in the next column.

GMA's 'pasalubong'

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

BOTH OF THEM ARE BEAMING, FACES BATHED in an otherworldly glow that could have been caused as much by self-satisfaction as by bright lights.

President Macapagal-Arroyo shows no signs of her recent illness, and though dressed entirely in black, the glow of her smile is enough to light up her surroundings. Pope Benedict XVI looks a trifle tousled, but he has managed to stretch his lips into something like a smile. And between them is a bright red folder with the gold-leafed stamp of the presidential seal, containing, so we are told, a copy of the newly enacted law abolishing once more the death penalty in the Philippines.

The photo opportunity cannot but substantiate claims of critics that the President had rushed the passage of the death penalty abolition bill and hastily signed it into law so she could give the Pope a fitting souvenir for her visit. The Catholic Church as an institution officially condemns capital punishment, a position shared by the European Union.

In return, the President got what she wanted: a "pat on the back" (figurative, we suppose) and a papal commendation.

But even as the Pope and the President were engaging in this virtual love fest, the heads and members of Catholic religious congregations in the country were raising the alarm over the recent spate of killings in the country, particularly of journalists, Left-leaning leaders and church workers. Indeed, the suspected summary executions of activists, as well as the killings of journalists which, despite much hand-wringing from Malacañang, continue apace, give the lie to the "pro-life" stance of President Arroyo.

* * *

UNDER THIS administration, some lives are more precious than others. While men and women on death row have been given a reprieve and those found guilty of capital crimes can look forward to extended stays at the New Bilibid Prisons, those deemed "enemies of the state" won't even get their day in court.

The President's defenders may say no proof has emerged showing any link between the killings and the President. Theories abound regarding the unusually frequent deaths of journalists, activists and church workers, including some propounded by Cabinet members that the victims had it coming, either as a result of an internal purge within the Left or because of "other" activities that the slain journalists engaged in.

We may never find the "smoking gun" which would leave gunshot residue on GMA's hands, but her public pronouncements certainly implicate her, indicating her sins of commission and omission.

Her declaration of war against the Communist New People's Army could certainly be taken as blanket permission to go after "the usual suspects," even those who are engaged in legal organizing and protest, no matter how irritating these may be to officialdom. As for the journalists' death, her silence has been deafening and the inaction of law enforcement agencies frustrating to those who keep track of the body count. While journalists may indeed have been killed by jealous husbands, business rivals or criminal elements, it seems too much of a coincidence that many of those who have been assassinated were leading crusades against corruption at the local and national levels.

So while the Pope may for now give his "blessing" to GMA, the President shouldn't rest easy. The wheels of God may grind slowly, but they grind exceedingly fine.

* * *

PERHAPS included in the "*pasalubong* package" the President lugged to Rome is the recent decision of the Department of Education to temporarily halt "for further study" the distribution of its sex education modules among public high school teachers.

The decision was made after someone claiming to write on behalf of a commission of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) wrote a letter to the DepEd decrying the educational materials, saying these "encouraged" students to try pre-marital sex by transmitting information on family planning methods. (Does giving life jackets to ferry passengers encourage them to jump off the ship?)

Ramon San Pascual, executive director of the Philippine Legislators Committee on Population and Development (PLCPD), in reaction to the DepEd's decision, asks: "Which is more disturbing: making accurate information available (to teenagers) to enable them to make informed choices or deliberately denying information and praying that they do not get too curious and get pregnant at an early age?"

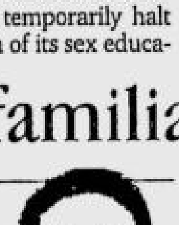
Studies done around the world, says San Pascual, have shown "that young people who had sexuality education are more likely to postpone sexual initiation." This is because, armed with the necessary information, young people are more likely to be less curious and fascinated with sex. As for the bishops' contention that parents should be the only sources of sex information and education for young people, a national survey (as well as personal experience) has found that more than half of our youth say they do not feel comfortable discussing sex with their parents.

* * *

IN AN OPEN letter, San Pascual warns: "By denying (young people) accurate and relevant information on reproductive health, we are putting them at a greater risk of having unwanted pregnancies or acquiring sexually transmitted infections. We are denying them a chance to have a better future by not empowering them to make responsible choices and decisions."

It's one thing to seek a host's approval by offering up legislation and policy that would be pleasing to the host. But entirely another thing to sacrifice the welfare of present and future generations just for a sprinkling of holy water, a kindly smile and a fatherly pat on the back.

Same problems and familiar feelings



LOOKING BACK

Ambeth R. Ocampo

EVERY WEEK, I TRY TO MAKE THE ROUNDS of Ermita antique shops, from the one-stop Casa Tesoro which has six dealers under one roof (the best being Nora Ignacio's Sinagtala) to the row of shops that specialize in Oriental ceramics fronting Ermita Church (the most visited being the shop of the semi-retired Venancio Magbuhos). It is a pleasant way to spend half a day. It is also my means of getting some exercise by walking through a side street toward Arquiza where there are shops that carry ethnic items (Floy Quintos of Gallery Deus) and reproductions (look for Magdalena Nelly whose famous slogan is "We make modern antiques"). My weekly pilgrimage always ends with me browsing at Solidaridad bookshop followed by snacks of *ensaimada* at Hizon's bakery. On these hunting expeditions, I have come upon some reasonably priced items like old photographs, my favorite being that of Manuel Roxas and his wife standing in front of an over-sized cake, or sometimes books and magazines.

It was in Ermita that I acquired a bundle of Ateneo Monthly issues from July 1922 to February 1923. I didn't give them much thought and didn't value them much, until I learned that the Ateneo de Manila University Library and archives do not have copies. I found them on my shelves recently, and opened them at random to read some juvenile writing. But I was surprised to see how relevant some of the issues still are, over eight decades later.

Now that we have a re-enacted budget and everyone is wondering whether the Department of Education will get the funds it always needs and wants, perhaps we can go back to the editorial of September 1922 and wonder how much we have progressed since then:

"Our government officials are now fixing the budget for the next year, and one of the difficult questions that faces them is to fix the assignment for the Department of Education. Tentatively, they are cutting P1,000,000 from the sum allotted to this department. According to Mr. Tracey, this means the closing of the high schools in the provinces. To me, this is the least harmful of the two alternatives open to the authorities.

"The other alternative would be to close a large number of the grade schools. But our government is for the people, and its benefits must be given to the largest possible number of the people. Let us then, in this time of crisis, invert the high school fund to the primary and intermediate schools, and thus benefit a larger number of our boys and girls.

"For those children of the lower schools who exhibit excellent minds, of great promise, we suggest the opening of central high schools in Manila. High marks, not pesos, would be the entrance fee into these schools.

"From this course of action a benefit may flow, accidentally. Too many of the lordly high school graduates of today are seeking the stiff-cuff jobs. And their country suffers. The humble grade school graduates of tomorrow—may many of them seek the lowly but happy and honorable and urgently needed career of farmer. Thus infinite resources of our fertile lands will be uncovered.

"However while we urge this procedure, let it be clearly understood that we by no means oppose high schools. Their value to our people is incalculable. We only say that in the present crisis it is of more vital value to keep open as many as possible of the primary and intermediate schools."

Of course, we do not have exactly the same problems as the past but the issues of funding, choice of where to put those funds, and even the quality of schools, teachers, textbooks and students have been discussed for so long and yet we seem to be stuck in the same situation. I read this 1922 editorial with some amusement because in it we see the continuing relevance of the past, which is a polite way of saying we have progressed little in almost a century. How depressing indeed.

But then the Ateneo Monthly struck a high note in sports, with an editorial on Pancho Villa. The sentiments expressed there could very well be what we feel for Manny Pacquiao today:

"Pancho Villa, the champion bantamweight and flyweight of the Orient, won on September 16 [1922] the flyweight championship of America with a technical knockout over Johny Buff in the eleventh round, at Ebbet's Field, Brooklyn, New York. About 30,000 were present.

"The Manila Whirlwind gave Buff an awful lacing. He won every round, and this against a much more experienced opponent. Being unknown a few months ago, he is now admired throughout the United States.

"The Ateneo de Manila rejoices with the rest of the Philippine people at this event of the sporting world. We all know that Pancho is a humble and likeable fellow. This victory of his has shown the world that the Philippines has at least one top-notch boxer, and marks the official entrance of our athletes into the realm of sport. Thus, we have lifted one more of those obscuring veils that hide from the world the true Pearl of the Orient. So we, all the students of the Ateneo, sincerely congratulate Pancho Villa for being the first Filipino to gain a championship title in America, and wish him great success for the future, especially in his contemplated bout with Jimmy Wilde, the flyweight champion of the world."

Villa now lies quietly in the Manila North Cemetery with boxing gloves and a wreath embellishing his tombstone.

* * *

Comments are welcome at acoampo@ateneo.edu

Giving wealth away

PINOY KASI

Michael L. Tan

FIRST IT WAS NEWS ABOUT BILL GATES, THE WORLD'S richest man, announcing that he was giving up his job at Microsoft so he could devote his time to his charity, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. That foundation has given billions of dollars in grants, mainly to global health programs to fight diseases such as HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis.

Yesterday, there was even more earth-shaking news: Warren Buffett, sometimes described as the world's second richest man, announced that over the next five years, he would be giving away 85 percent of his wealth, in the form of stocks in his investment company, Berkshire. Based on the current prices of the stocks, it is estimated he could give away as much as $37 billion.

Buffett will be giving the shares to five foundations, including the Susan Thompson Buffett Foundation named after his wife. But of the five foundations, the largest recipient will be the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Family foundations

Our schools, especially those teaching business, should pick up on these recent developments as case studies on philanthropy, social responsibility and business ethics.

Buffett represents a growing number of business people who believe that one shouldn't aspire for wealth for the sake of wealth itself. Instead, wealth is seen as a way of doing good. These businesspeople also believe profits should be returned back to a society that generated it in the first place.

It's an intriguing concept, especially coming from the United States with its cut-throat competitive capitalism. But I've had to work with some of these foundations and have been quite impressed, particularly with the family foundations. These are different from corporate foundations. For example, there is a Hewlett-Packard corporate foundation, but there are also separate family foundations set up by that company's founders: the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation as well as the David and Lucile Packard Foundation.

The story goes that David and Lucile Packard first processed project proposals in their kitchen, as people would write them to solicit donations for various causes. Over the years, as Hewlett-Packard grew, so too did their personal donations. All over California you'll find the legacies of their philanthropy, from the Lucile Packard Children's Hospital in Stanford University to the Monterey Aquarium, to an old movie theater in Palo Alto preserved for its architecture. (If only some Filipino philanthropist had done that for the art-deco Avenue Theater, now being demolished.)

After David and Lucile Packard passed away, they left much of their stocks to the foundation. Today, the foundation has an entire building to house its staff, and gave away $201 million last year to American and international non-profit organizations.

Mega-philanthropy

If Forbes magazine has its listing of the world's 400 richest people, there's also the Slate 60, an annual compilation by Slate (Washington Post's online news and features service) that monitors what has been called mega-philanthropy. The Slate 60 lists America's largest charitable contributions by individuals.

Leading the list for 2005 was Cordelia Scaife May, who died in January and left behind $404 million to various charities. Second in the Slate 60 list were Bill and Melinda Gates, who gave $320 million to their foundation. Hollywood celebrities have always been conspicuously absent from the Slate 60, with the exception of Oprah Winfrey, who last year donated $51.8 million to her own foundation, which works mainly with programs for women and children.

"Buffett's billions" will be sure to top the Slate 60 for 2006, and will unlikely be surpassed for many years, but we can expect to continue to see multimillion-dollar donations, with a distinct trend of people donating while they are still alive.

Many of these donations go to universities, something which we're starting to see in the Philippines with the likes of Angelo King and the Gokongwei family. In the United States, the philanthropies have diversified into all kinds of causes. George Soros funds projects to promote more democratic systems, particularly in Eastern Europe. David and Cheryl Duffield, who made their money from PeopleSoft, a software company, donated $93 million last year to their own Maddie's Fund, named after their miniature Schnauzer, which concentrates on animal welfare projects.

Mega-poverty

Mega-philanthropy accompanies mega-wealth. The global consulting firm Capgemini estimates that in 1996 there were only 4.5 million millionaires throughout the world. Recently they released a new study estimating the number had nearly doubled to about 8.7 million. (If you're wondering, the million has to be in US dollars.)

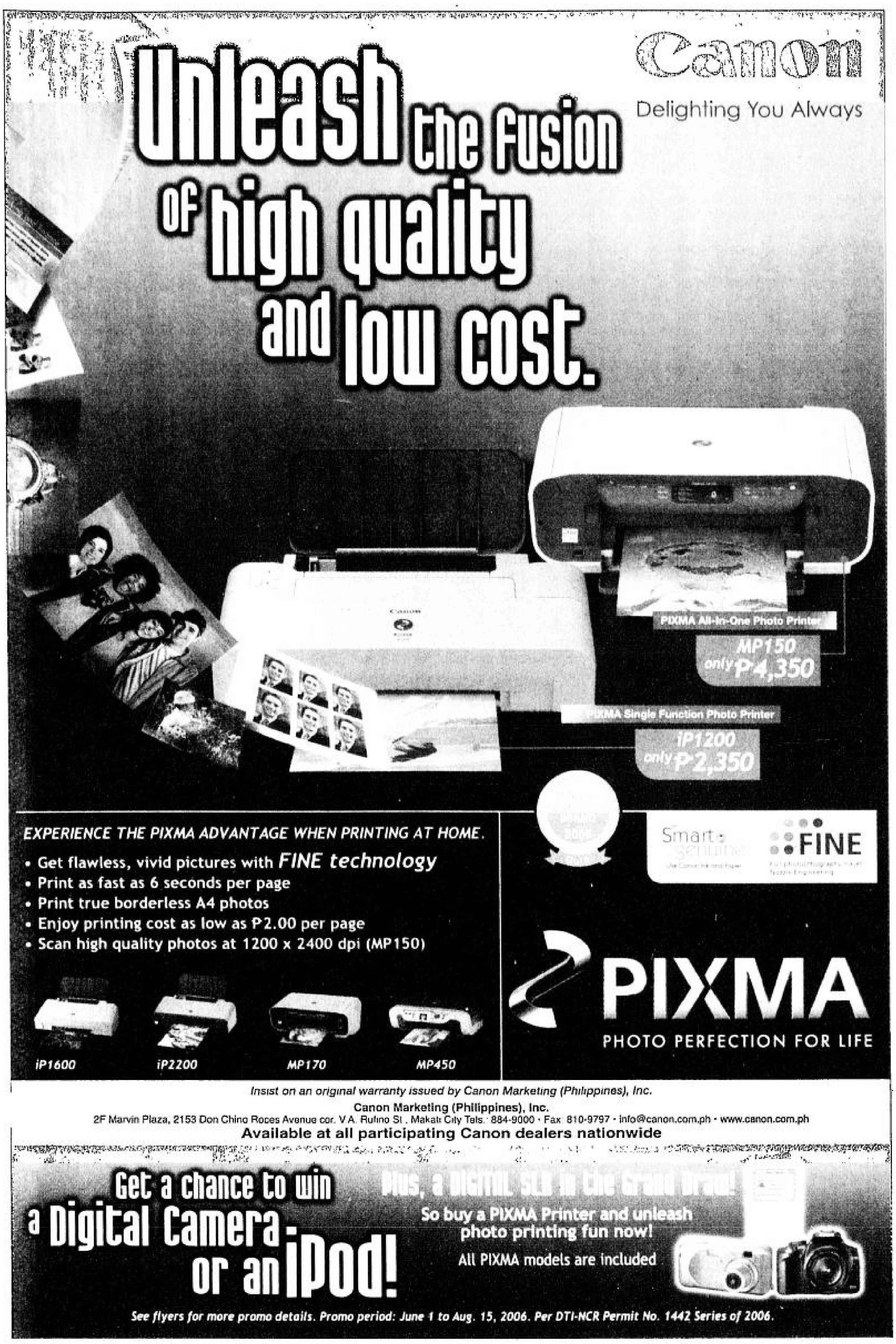
There are now so many millionaires that a new term—"ultra high income"—is now used to those whose assets exceed $30 million. I don't know how we should call billionaires, with Forbes magazine reporting that in 2006, there were 793 of these people, including, I think, two or three in the Philippines.

The more radical will say charity donations can only be a stop-gap measure, but mega-philanthropy does bring out new potentials for dealing with the world's mega-problems. It's not surprising that Bill Gates is giving up his job at Microsoft. It's not just a matter of not needing the money, but of administering the huge funds in the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, especially with the influx of Buffett's donation.

Buffett is intriguing, too, because of his decision to donate the bulk of his wealth to the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, which has led to jokes about the world's second richest man giving all his money to the world's richest man. Buffett explains that rather than building up the Buffett Foundation, he felt it would be better to just give to the Gates' foundation, which is already scaled up. Most of the other mega-philanthropists have donated to their own foundations, so it'll be interesting to see if Buffett sets a new trend.

Let's see what happens in the Philippines. There is mega-wealth in our country, amid mega-poverty. American philanthropy reminds us that there has to be limits to wealth. Andrew Carnegie, who had migrated from Scotland to the United States in the 19th century, and rose from rags to riches, decided quite early that he would not take a salary of more than $50,000 per year and that income beyond that amount he would spend for "benevolent purposes."

Of course, $50,000 was a lot of money at that time, but Carnegie's new take on wealth translated into an early form of mega-philanthropy, mainly donations to educational institutions and libraries. Before he died, Carnegie had given away some $350 million, probably equivalent to Buffett's billions when we factor in inflation. After he died, he still had $30 million, all of which was bequeathed to charity.



Canon
Delighting You Always
Unleash the fusion of high quality and low cost.
PIXMA All-In-One Photo Printer
MP150 only ₱4,350
PIXMA Single Function Photo Printer
iP1200 only ₱2,350
Smart genuine
FINE
iP1600
iP2200
MP170
MP450
PIXMA
PHOTO PERFECTION FOR LIFE
Get a chance to win a Digital Camera - or an iPod!
Plus, a DIGITAL SLR in the Grand Draw!

EXPERIENCE THE PIXMA ADVANTAGE WHEN PRINTING AT HOME.

- Get flawless, vivid pictures with *FINE technology*
- Print as fast as 6 seconds per page
- Print true borderless A4 photos
- Enjoy printing cost as low as ₱2.00 per page
- Scan high quality photos at 1200 x 2400 dpi (MP150)

Insist on an original warranty issued by Canon Marketing (Philippines), Inc.

Canon Marketing (Philippines), Inc.
2F Marvin Plaza, 2153 Don Chino Roces Avenue cor. V.A. Rufino St., Makati City Tels.: 884-9000 · Fax: 810-9797 · info@canon.com.ph · www.canon.com.ph
Available at all participating Canon dealers nationwide

So buy a PIXMA Printer and unleash photo printing fun now!
All PIXMA models are included

See flyers for more promo details. Promo period: June 1 to Aug. 15, 2006. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1442 Series of 2006.

A priest inspired by a young Filipino

I AM FR. LUCIANO FELLONI, A missionary priest from Argentina. I have served 11 years in the Philippines, more specifically in Payatas, Quezon City. At present, I am establishing here in Korea a mission for the religious congregation to which I belong. I'm working with Filipino migrants and, as I love the Philippines, I usually read daily the online version of the INQUIRER.

Last June 19, after a really terribly heavy day at a Korean language school, after a long "wrestling" with God and with the tongue-twisting Hangumal language, I sat down at the computer and opened the INQUIRER website, where I found the inspiring Youngblood article, titled "Wrestling with God" (PDI, 6/19/06), written by Anton Dominic Magbanua.

I'm writing because I sincerely want to thank the INQUIRER for giving persons as wise as Anton the opportunity to publicize his reflections. I was truly inspired and edified by his testimony. As a young priest struggling in my new mission, I was able to muster a lot of energy and inner strength from his article. May God bless him!

One of the biggest blessings God has given me was to be assigned to the Philippines, where I came to know so many Filipinos and shared their many joys. I saw many of them go through sacrifices and sufferings, yet remaining strong, to make this world a better place.

I can't help but remember all the volunteers with whom I worked in Payatas, with the young people of Payatas, the best youth in the world! Now that I'm here in Korea, I still see so many Filipinos making so much sacrifice for their families, for their children and, most of all, for their country's future.

With young Filipinos like Anton, the Philippines has a bright future ahead. *Mabuhay ang Pilipinas!*

—FR. LUCIANO FELLONI, FDP,
Sons of Divine Providence,
Seoul, South Korea

An Everest climb is a climb and a feat to be proud of

I AM DEEPLY SADDENED BY how Filipinos doubted and ignored Dale Abenojar, the Filipino mountaineer who claimed to have summited Mt. Everest, too.

To me, it doesn't matter whether he is indeed the first, second, third or fourth Filipino to conquer Mt. Everest, or if he or any Filipino did reach Everest's summit at all.

I take my hat off to all Filipinos who climbed Mt. Everest. Climbing that mountain, even without reaching the top, is by itself already a feat considering the harsh conditions that can claim one's life.

It was so sad that all the welcome and the praise did not include Abenojar. I think it was mean of Filipinos to brush him aside. We could have celebrated the achievement of the four (or so) Filipinos who went up Mt. Everest.

I hope we can set aside biases, look at the big picture and band together. To Abenojar, congratulations ! I pray for his full recovery.

—MICHELLE C. BAUTISTA,
United Paranaque 1,
Parañaque City

VFA has a twin agreement

I HAVE A COMMENT ON INQUIRer's June 21 editorial titled "Litmus test." It railed about the unfairness of an agreement which it called "the VFA." The agreement, nearly universally referred to as "the VFA" in the Philippine press, is one of a pair of companion agreements.

What the editorial referred to as "the VFA," is an agreement between the RP and US governments "Regarding the Treatment of United States Armed Forces Visiting the Philippines."

The other companion agreement, very rarely mentioned in the Philippine press, is an agreement between the RP and US governments "Regarding the Treatment of Republic of the Philippines Personnel Visiting the United States of America."

Considered in isolation, either one of these two companion agreements would appear lopsided. Considered together, the two companion agreements would not appear so.

—BILL MITCHELL,
Boracay Island,
bill.mitchell@pobox.com

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
TV GUIDE
Wednesday, June 28, 2006

THEY WILL BE THE JUDGES. YOU WILL BE THE JURY.
Philippine Idol
ABANGAN SA JULY 29!
ABC
Iba Tayo!

ClickTheCity.com

Channel	2:30PM	3:00PM	3:30PM	4:00PM	4:30PM	5:00PM	5:30PM	6:00PM	6:30PM	7:00PM	7:30PM	8:00PM	8:30PM	9:00PM	9:30PM	10:00PM	10:30PM	11:00PM	11:30PM
ABC 5				National Geographic	PBA				Sentro	PBA					Big News	The Best Of American Idol			
ABS-CBN 2	Kapamilya Cinema			Pasion de Amor	Little Amy	Mr. Bean	Naruto	Calla Lily	TV Patrol World		Kapamilya Deal Or No Deal	Bituing Walang Ningning	Sa Piling Mo	My Girl	A Love To Kill	SOCO			Insider
AXN		CSI: NY (Season 2)		Worlds Apart		The World's Most Extreme Races		Amazon		Andromeda (Season V)		30 Seconds To Fame	Samsung Sports World	Maximum Exposure (Season 1)		CSI: Crime Scene Investigation (Season 6)		CSI: Miami (Season II)	
Cartoon Network	Police Academy	Richie Rich	Tom & Jerry Show	Baby Looney Tunes	Hi Hi Puffy AmiYumi	The Grim Adventures Of Billy & Mandy Double Episodes		The Simpsons - Double Episodes		Power Rangers Ninja Storm	PokeMon	Dico	Gundam Seed Destiny	The Simpsons		Mucha Lucha!	Duck Dodgers	Justice League	Samurai Jack
Cinema One		12 Kuba				Bilangin Ang Bituin Sa Langit				Lisensyadong Kamao			Persona	Sugatang Puso (9:15 PM)				Ang Lalaki Sa Buhay Ni Selya	
Cinemax		For Better Or Worse (2:50 PM)			From Here To Eternity			Taking Lives (6:15 PM)				Sleepless In Seattle			Out For Justice (9:45 PM)			Sunset (11:15PM)	
CNN		Business International		World News	World Sport	Larry King Live		Business International	World Sport	World News Asia		World News	World Sport	World News Asia	World News Asia	Your World Today			
Crime/Suspense		Cold Case		Law & Order Special Victims Unit		Profiler		Forensic Files	I, Detective	Law & Order		Law & Order Special Victims Unit		The Corruptor				Bones	
Discovery Channel		Unsolved History		American Chopper		The Greatest Ever		I Survived		Wild Discovery		China 9		Avian Flu		I Survived		Ten Ways	
Disney Channel	Mr. Bean, The Animated Series	Totally Spies	Art Attack/Untalkative Bunny	Sabrina, The Animated Series	Lilo & Stitch	Martin Mystery	Totally Spies	Kim Possible	Mr. Bean, The Animated Series	That's So Raven	Wonderful World Of Disney			American Dragon	Buzz on Maggie	Kim Possible	Totally Spies	Wonderful World Of Disney	
ESPN		Pool: Snooker World Pool Masters '03 Holland		Winter X Games IX Day1 PT III Aspen Co. USA			X-Games Files '04	Table Tennis '06 Katerspin	Motorsport Asia	World Pool Champ '03 Cardiff Wales	Sportscenter Germany	Germany Tonight		Sportscenter Germany	Classic Boxing	Sportscenter Asia	Classic Boxing		Sportscenter Asia
ETC		America's Next Top Model 4		Change of Heart	Elimidate	Blind Date	Fifth Wheel	Seinfeld	Ambush Makeover	The Tyra Banks Show		Veronica Mars 2		Beach Girls		Entertainment Tonight	The Insider	The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	
ETC 2nd Avenue		Starting Over		The Maury Povich Show		The Jerry Springer Show		Dr. Phil		NBC Nightly News	The Inside Edition	The Ellen Show		Wheel Of Fortune	Jeopardy	Cold Turkey		NBC Nightly News	The Inside Edition
EWTN	St. Thomas More Faithful Statesman	Chaplet Of Mercy/ Angelus	Faith In Motion	Truth In The Heart	Rosary With Mother Angelica	EWTN Gallery	Suffering And The Love Of God	EWTN Catholic Classic	The Church & The Poor: Building Bridges	Mother Angelica Live Classics		Daily Mass Live		Holy Land Rosary/ Angelus	One In Their Hearts: Holiness Of Priesthood	Parable	Rome Reports	Special Programming	
Fox News		On The Record With Greta Van Susteren		The O'Reilly Factor		Your World With Neil Cavuto		Fox & Friends						Fox News Live					
GMA 7	Agawin Mo Man Ang Lahat (2:45 PM)	Now and Forever (3:15 PM)	Endless Love 1 Autumn In My Heart By Popular Demand		Saiyuki	Dragonball Z	Gokusen	24 Oras		Captain Barbell	Majika	I Luv NY		Love Of The Condor Heroes		Nuts Entertainment			Saksi
Hallmark Channel		Empire (3:15 PM)		Freak City (4:05 PM)				Bewitched	The Nanny	Judging Amy		Doc Martin		Judging Amy		Little John			Judging Amy (11:45PM)
HBO			A Simple Wish			Daylight				Absolute Power				Fallen				Wimbledon	
Hero TV	Yu-Gi-Oh Duel Monsters	Yakitate! Japan	Mr. Ajikko	D.I.C.E.	Super Gals	Angelic Layer	Tokyo Underground	Metal Fighter Miku	Beyblade G-Revolution	Yu-Gi-Oh GX	Naruto	Mirmo de Pon	Inuyasha	Yu-Gi-Oh Duel Monsters	Yakitate! Japan	Mr. Ajikko	D.I.C.E.	Super Gals	Angelic Layer
IBC 13		EZ Shop				Home Shopping Network	IBC Express Balita	TV Infomercial		Japan Video Topics		ME TV		Travel Philippines	BYK 101	Up Close And Personal	IBC News Tonite	[illegible] Barrios	
JackTV	The Daily Show With Jon Stewart	The Late Show David Letterman		Heat		Velocity		X-Men	Street Smarts	Mad TV		That 70s Show	My Name Is Earl	The Late Show David Letterman		The Daily Show With Jon Stewart	Premium Blend	Primetime Glick	Chappelle Show
Lifestyle Network		30 Minute Meals	Wolfgang Puck	Sweet Dreams	Smart Solutions	Sensible Chic	Decorating Cents	Iron Chef America		My Country, My Kitchen	E! Entertainment Special		Living Space	Martha		Fine Living Special		Intimate Portrait	
MTV Philippines		Laguna Beach		MTV Screen	MTV Hits (with SMS)					Get Spotted	Get Hitch'd	MTV Screen	MTV Hits	TRL		Laguna Beach		MTV Live: Imago	
MYX		Rock MYX	My MYX	Mellow MYX	Urban MYX	Take 5	MYXILOG	MYX Firsts	Star MYX	OPM MYX	Pop MYX	MYX Daily Top Ten		MYX Live!		Urban MYX	My MYX	MYX Backtrax	MYXILOG
National Geographic	Wildlife Diary	National Geographic Specials		Journey Into Amazonia		Totally Wild: Cyanide Octopus	Planet Wild S1-06 Relationships	Top 5 - Tornado		WOW! Wild Sex: Swingers		About Asia		National Geographic Specials		Seconds From Disaster: Crash Landing At Sioux City		Is It Real? Psychic Detectives	
NBN		Teledyaryo Alas-Tres		Teledyaryo Sports Alap			Diyos Ko, Mahal Mo Ba Sila?	Teledyaryo W/ [illegible]		Tinig ng Bayan (Live)				Teledyaryo Final Edition				Bantay OCW With Susan K	
Nickelodeon	Chalkzone	Hey Arnold!	SpongeBob SquarePants	Rocket Power	Four Eyes	SpongeBob SquarePants/ Right On Top	My Life As A Teenage Robot	Nick Kicks		The Fairly Odd Parents	Drake & Josh	Unfabulous	Romeo	Naturally Sadie	SpongeBob SquarePants	As Told By Ginger	The Fairly Odd Parents	My Dad The Rock Star	
PBO			Dahil Tanging Ikaw				Pangako				Bangers				Ginto't Pilak				Gamitan
Qtv	Ikaw Lang Ang Mamahalin		Scrapped Princess	Kaleido Star	MMS (My Music Station)		Moms		Magic Ring	Irene	Noel	Project 11	Now Na!		News On Q	Balikbayan		Irene	Over The Green Fields
RPN 9						Global Window	RPN Aksyon News	Entertainment Tonight	The Insider	NBA Semis/Conference Finals						Newswatch Now	Curse For Truth		Kerygma
SBN 21				New Life TV Shopping				Winner TV Shopping		Sony Music Video		Oras Ng Himala		Oras ng Katotohanan		SBN Music Video			
Solar Sports						Tennis: WTA Estoril Open Finals				Sagupaan	Battle of the Undefeated: M. Cotto vs P. Malignaggi						Solar Sports Desk	World Tennis Masters ep 13	
Sports Plus			Inside the PGA	FIFA World Cup '06 Match 51 Round 16						NASCAR Dodge Save Mart 350 Sonoma								FIFA World Cup '06 Match 53 Round 16	
Star Movies	Confessions of a Sociopathic Social Climber (2:45 PM)			Barricade (4:15PM)				My Date With Drew (5:50 PM)			The Last Shot (7:25 PM)			Moscow Heat			License To Kill (10:35PM)		
Star World		The Bold & The Beautiful		General Hospital		Ed		The Simpsons	Malcolm In The Middle	Star News Asia	Seinfeld	Beauty & The Geek		Beauty & Geek/ Boston Legal		The Apprentice		Seinfeld	Beauty & The Geek
Studio 23	Bewitched	Yu-Gi-Oh 3 & 4				Batman Beyond	Xiaolin Showdown	Spirits	Pinoy Big Brother	Wazzup Wazzup	World's Craziest Videos		CSI (8:20 PM)	24 Season 4 (9:10 PM)		News Central	Oprah		Just Shoot Me

TV SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

Docs trained to detect and report torture cases

From page A1

Torture Coalition-Philippines, CHR and Congress, and a torture victim.

No questions asked

Abcede said that while it was common knowledge among human rights activists that torture happened inside the country's jails, most doctors were not familiar with the signs of torture and did not know how to help victims.

"They treat, but they don't ask. We want them to ask because this will also help the victims to open up," she said.

In a statement, UN Special Rapporteur on Torture Manfred Nowak reiterated that documentation and reporting played a crucial role in preventing torture.

Ethical obligations

"I take this opportunity to call upon medical doctors and other health professionals to fulfill their legal and ethical obligations toward torture survivors, including the obligation to document and report instances of torture and political violence," Nowak said.

He cited an incident in Guantanamo Bay in Cuba where doctors had force-fed prisoners in a painful way, "reminding us of the appalling fact that medical doctors have in several instances participated in torture and ill treatment."

Nowak said that despite the ratification by 141 states of the Convention on Torture, more than 100 countries, including signatories to the convention, continued to torture men, women and children.

Human rights abuses

With the Philippines' record on human rights violations, Filipino doctors have a lot of reasons to learn.

From 1988 to 1998, a total of 15,556 complaints of human rights violations, most of them cases of torture, were lodged with the Presidential Committee on Human Rights, CHR Director Karen Dumpit said during the forum.

Task Force Detainees of the Philippines recorded 102 cases of torture under the administration of former President Corazon Aquino, 179 cases under Fidel Ramos, 53 cases during the shortened term of Joseph Estrada, and 105 cases under President Macapagal-Arroyo.

Painful reality

The MAG released a manual for medical professionals early this year explaining the Philippines' commitment to international conventions against torture and other human rights violations.

Abcede said the group was also coordinating with the Philippine Medical Association in its education campaign.

The PMA itself has admitted that few doctors are aware that torture is a painful reality among the country's prisoners and suspected political dissidents.

Doctors' mandate

Training doctors could be a big boost to the advocates' efforts to document torture inside jails and detention centers where doctors have access.

NGOs are not allowed to carry cameras when they visit prisoners to check on their condition, so the best they can do is to write down the details of the torture and describe the torture marks on the victims.

Doctors, on the other hand, are even mandated to do routine checks in jails. The law also requires a medical examination of those who have been arrested before they are put behind bars or released.

"There are doctors who have been trained. We encourage the victims to come out," Abcede said.

IN THE KNOW

105 cases documented

HUMAN RIGHTS WATCHDOG TASK FORCE Detainees of the Philippines has documented 105 cases involving 232 victims of torture in the country since President Macapagal-Arroyo took office in 2001.

According to the TFD tally, 65 cases were perpetrated allegedly by members of the Philippine Army and 22 by members of the Philippine National Police. The rest were blamed on the military and police intelligence services, the National Bureau of Investigation, the Marines, the Air Force and the Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit.

Torture is defined in a United Nations convention as "any act by which severe pain or suffering, whether physical or mental, is intentionally inflicted on a person…by or at the instigation of or with the consent of a public official" to obtain information or a confession or punish him for his supposed acts.

More than half of the recorded torture cases took place in Mindanao (53 cases). There were 35 cases in Luzon and 17 in Visayas.

Of the 232 victims, 17 were minors, two were elderly and eight were women.

TFDP has been documenting cases of human rights violations since 1974, when the country was under martial law. *Cyril L. Bonabente, PDI Research*

OFWs send home billions of dollars but bypass banks

From page A1

neled through the formal banking system.

Remittances sent through informal channels by overseas Filipino workers across the globe were estimated to have reached $2 billion last year.

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas estimated that about $2.8 billion in OFW remittances would pass through informal channels this year.

"The opportunities offered by banking, in the form of credits, long-term savings and insurance among other products and services, are missed by most financial institutions in both the sending and receiving areas," the study said.

High transaction costs of between 4 and 9 percent of the amount sent, poor education as well as regulatory factors are to blame, it added.

"The stricter the rules [on remittances] . . . the more informality exists in the marketplace," the ADB said.

Much of the remittance money flowing between Singapore and Malaysia, which the ADB estimated at $1.1 billion per year, "is transferred through physical means."

No bank accounts

More than a third of Indonesian maids in Singapore "do not have bank accounts in their home country . . . (while) half of Filipino workers in Hong Kong do not," the ADB said.

If the workers use the banking system, "the portion of remitted money that remains in recipients' bank accounts could potentially be mobilized through short-term placement of savings in a money market, or investments in securities including government bonds" or through lending to recipients of remittances, it pointed out.

The ADB urged the governments of labor exporting Asian countries to "lift restrictions requiring emigrants to use employment agencies," noting that many Filipinos and Indonesians rely on these headhunters for overseas job placements.

"It is not unusual for agencies to charge high fees which leave little surplus for transferring back home."

Bank for OFWs

The Arroyo administration in March announced plans to convert the Philippine Postal Savings Bank into an OFW bank in a bid to corner at least 20 percent of the remittances that bypass the formal banking system. The government-run PPSB will be renamed Philippine Overseas Postal Bank.

The new bank planned to offer lower service fees—about 20 to 30 percent less than what the banking system is collecting. At present, banks charge $5 to $20 per remittance, a service fee that OFWs find a bit high and encourage them to use the informal banking system.

The new bank will also receive OFW remittances through postal offices abroad. The bank, in turn, will send the money to families of OFWs through automated teller machines (ATMs) in about 2,000 post offices throughout the country.

The new OFW bank will offer better foreign exchange rates compared to what other banks give. *AFP*

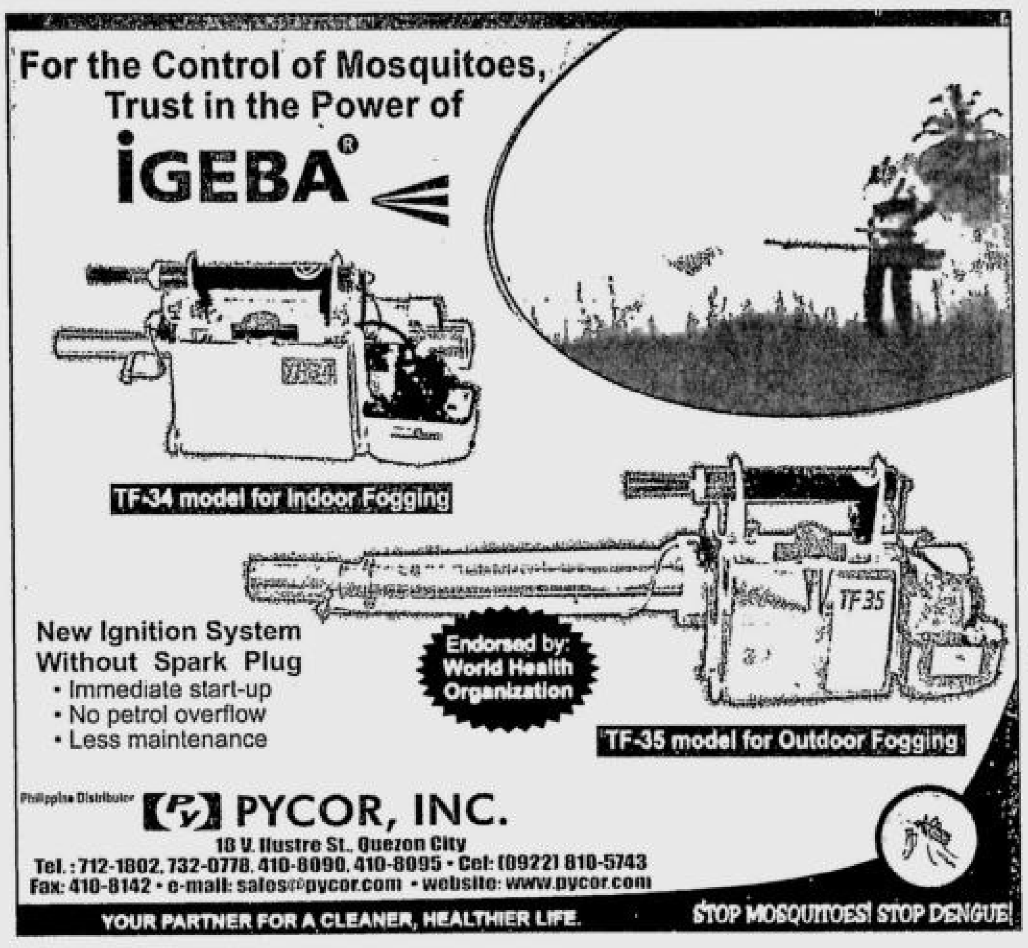
JUST SAY "YES"!

Say "YES" to FREE delivery. Say "YES" to FREE issues. Say "YES" to paying by cash or credit card. Say "YES" and [illegible]!

The Philippine Daily Inquirer Delivers. Call 896-6000 now!

mid-year sale
office and home furniture
up to 50% off
on great selections.
Period covered. June 9 to 30, 2006

SMART FURNITURE
1619 G Araneta Ave. Cor Sgt. Rivera St., Quezon City
Telephone Number : 414-7301/330-2502 Fax Number 330-2585



For the Control of Mosquitoes,
Trust in the Power of
IGEBA®

TF-34 model for Indoor Fogging

TF-35 model for Outdoor Fogging

Endorsed by: World Health Organization

New Ignition System Without Spark Plug
- Immediate start-up
- No petrol overflow
- Less maintenance

Philippine Distributor PYCOR, INC.
18 V. Ilustre St., Quezon City
Tel.: 712-1802, 732-0778, 410-8090, 410-8095 • Cel: (0922) 810-5743
Fax: 410-8142 • e-mail: sales@pycor.com • website: www.pycor.com

YOUR PARTNER FOR A CLEANER, HEALTHIER LIFE.
STOP MOSQUITOES! STOP DENGUE!

Panasonic
ideas for life

IMPORTANT SERVICE NOTICE

Panasonic Philippines notifies the public that we are not allowed to repair Panasonic 900 MHz, 2.4 GHz & 5.8 GHz cordless phones as per regulation by the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC). Such cordless phones are **illegal** in the Philippines and they may interfere with cellular phones, etc. In this regard, we advise the consumers not to buy 900 MHz, 2.4 GHz & 5.8 GHz cordless phones. All Panasonic cordless phones distributed by Panasonic Philippines comply with the regulation and are type-approved by NTC.

Panasonic Wireless Technology...Smart people choose Panasonic

DECT
Digitally Enhanced Cordless Telephone
NEW
KX-TCD810
KX-TCD300
Available in silver & titanium gray
KX-TCD500
KX-TCD200
Available in blue & black
NEW
KX-TCD240
NEW
KX-TCD230
KX-TC2100
Available in silver & black

KEY FEATURES	KX-TC2100	KX-TCD200	KX-TCD500	KX-TCD300	KX-TCD230	KX-TCD240	KX-TCD810
Caller-ID Compatible*		•	•	•	•	•	•
Caller-ID Memory*		50 stations	50 stations	50 stations	50 stations	50 stations	50 stations
Ringer Melody	1 melody	14 melodies	15 melodies	14 melodies	10 melodies	10 melodies	14 melodies
Polyphonic Ring Tones		6 tones	32 tones	6 tones	5 tones	5 tones	6 tones
Recordable Customized Ringer							•
Key Lock		•	•	•	•	•	
Colored LCD				•			•
Large LCD with Blue Backlight			•				
Lighted Handset Keypad			•	•	•	•	•
SMS (Text Messaging) Capable*				•	•	•	•
Phone Directory	11 stations	20 stations	200 stations	200 stations	200 stations (handset) 20 stations (base)	200 stations (handset) 20 stations (base)	200 stations
Handset Locator (Paging)	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Intercom w/ 2-way paging					•	•	
Speakerphone		•	•	•	•	•	•
Dual Keypads					•	•	
Telephone Answering System						•	
USB Connection							•
Infrared Port for Data Exchange							•
Audio Connector							•
Baby Monitor							•
Multi-Handset Capability (Optional)		up to 6 handsets	up to 6 handsets	up to 6 handsets	up to 6 handsets	up to 6 handsets	up to 6 handsets

*Note: Caller-ID & SMS (Text Messaging) Subscription required. Features and design are subject to change without prior notice.

For dealer referrals, please call:
Panasonic Philippines (Sales Division of PMPC)
Tel. Nos. 899-4595 to 98 • Fax No. 897-4558 • Email address: pmpc_systemsales@ph.panasonic.com

LEAVING NO DATE TO CHANCE, the opposition led by former Vice President Teofisto Guingona files another impeachment complaint, endorsed by his son Rep. Teofisto III, which is exactly the same as the one filed on Monday.
JOAN BONDOC

Oliver strikes again; Tito files case, too

LOZANO

From page A1

one-year period began, it decided to file an impeachment complaint every day for one week just to be sure it covered all the bases.

Hence, the Guingona complaint yesterday, with more of the same to follow—all containing the same charges against the 59-year-old President who is on a weeklong trip to Europe.

Double dead

Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye, who is travelling with Ms Arroyo, said the new impeachment initiative was "double-dead meat" that was best buried. He said the President was halfway around the world trying to drum up investments, jobs and tourism for the Philippines.

"She is focused on her public duty like a laser beam and no amount of political gimmickry will take her eyes off her goal," Bunye said.

The wily Lozano said he knew precisely when the race began. He said House records showed that in fact he filed his first impeachment case on June 27, 2005.

House Minority Leader Francis Escudero's observation last year seemed prescient: The Lozano petition was meant to keep Ms Arroyo in power, not to kick her out.

"In their anger toward me, they forgot that the ban expires on June 27. That is the price for fighting with hatred in their hearts," said Lozano.

Lozano shot to national prominence when he tried to ignite a move to recall the dictator Ferdinand Marcos after his ouster in 1986.

Amid the furor last year over allegations Ms Arroyo manipulated the 2004 vote that provoked calls for her resignation, Lozano filed his impeachment complaint. It was derided by the opposition, who said it was a sham.

The House minority later brought its own case to unseat the President on charges that were rehashed for the current initiative.

That the opposition dallied before moving to file its complaint last year proved fatal.

Ms Arroyo's majority allies in Congress threw out the minority complaint and decided to consider the Lozano petition, because it was brought first. They later soundly trashed it.

Not an Arroyo straw man?

Lozano has denied he is Ms Arroyo's straw man, no matter that his complaint was endorsed by an administration lawmaker.

"I saved the day for them [the opposition]," Lozano gloated in refiling his old complaint. "They should just join me because I provided a fallback position for them."

He said that his complaint last year got 51 votes and the opposition could just work to get additional signatures to reach the magic number of 78—not 79 as earlier reported because two members had been appointed to the Cabinet—or a third of the House membership of 234.

Pro-Arroyo lawmakers doubt that the opposition could get as many signatures as they garnered last year in their failed effort.

However, House Secretary General Roberto Nazareno dismissed Lozano's "refiling" of his amended complaint last year.

"That's nothing. You shouldn't even bother with that," he said in an interview.

Endorsement needed

While admitting that Lozano might be correct about the date of the end of the one-year ban, Nazareno said that under House rules, any filing or notice of refiling of impeachment complaints should be sent to his office and not the Speaker's.

He also insisted that Lozano could not claim that the complaint he "refiled" had the required endorsers.

"The complaint endorsed by 39 congressmen last year was dismissed by the House. If he wanted to refile it, he should have again gathered the necessary signatures," Nazareno said.

Nazareno said that he had returned to Lozano his amended complaint when he initially tried to refile it on May 16 "for lack of endorsers" and also because the one-year ban was still in effect then.

Complaint never returned

Lozano, however, said that his complaint was never returned to him and that it was still "on file" with the House.

"It is not true that you returned the Lozano amended impeachment complaint for lack of endorsement. Just check your records and you can see the endorsed Lozano amended impeachment complaint on file," he said in his letter to the Speaker.

"Just check in the Supreme Court and you will readily find that the Lozano amended impeachment complaint is on appeal," he added.

Lozano also said that it was the House justice committee, and not Nazareno, that would decide which among the impeachment complaints filed after the one-year ban expired would be recognized. *With a report from Armand N. Nocum*

COLOSSAL JULY ON SKYCABLE

DON'T MISS OUT ON ALL THE EXCITEMENT OF JULY ON SKYCABLE! GET MORE THAN YOUR BASIC CABLE SUBSCRIPTION AND CATCH ALL THE ACTIONS FROM YOUR OWN LIVING ROOM.

SKYCABLE SEASON PASS
MANO-A-MANO
PACQUIAO VS LARIOS
JULY 2 9AM-12NN
GERMANY 2006
SEMI-FINALS TO FINALS
JULY 5-10

Subscribe to Skycable season pass and watch Mano a Mano and the 2006 FIFA World Cup LIVE and without COMMERCIALS!

Plus, experience the ultimate cable TV entertainment everyday from Skycable Platinum. Choose from HBO Pak, the ultimate movie entertainment package with 3 new HBO channels, the Metro Pack, a fusion of lifestyle channels, old movies, informative programs, news, adventure channels & children's programs or the MBC pack, the leading Korean channel with the world renowned Korean dramas and other programs.

SKYCABLE Platinum
HBO PAK
metro pack

THE SOPRANOS

And when you had your fill of TV, zoom in to the worldwide web with ZPDee broadband internet. The only internet brand of Skycable.

SKYCABLE zpdee broadband internet

Get more than your basic cable TV subscription.
Call 631-0000 or log on to www.skycable.com

‘Pope knows about Garci,’ says Bishop Cruz

From page A1

amend the Constitution.

“He knows about the situation in our country and from the way he sees things, I would say that he is very inspired,” she said.

Elated

Malacañang officials and proponents of Charter change were elated at what they believed was the blessing the Pope gave to the Arroyo administration’s campaign to revise the Constitution.

“We’re encouraged that the President is encouraged and so is everybody else who are supporting the President and the advocacy she’s fighting for,” Ms Arroyo’s political adviser Gabriel Claudio said.

Claudio said the Palace-created Advocacy Commission would continue to go around the country to raise public awareness on the benefits of Charter change, especially the shift to a parliamentary form of government.

Equally elated was lawyer Raul Lambino of the Sigaw ng Bayan, which is a proponent of the people’s initiative to change the Constitution.

“Considering that we are the biggest Catholic nation in Asia, we’re happy that the political reform that we hope can happen soon was given blessings [by the Pope],” Lambino said.

He expressed the hope that the Pope’s comments would “bring enlightenment” to Catholic bishops opposed to Charter change and the shift to a parliamentary form of government.

“It’s high time we adopted the system adopted in European countries like Italy, which is the seat of the Roman Catholic religion,” he said.

Think twice

If Ms Arroyo is convinced the Pope is happy about her administration, she better think twice, said Cruz, a former president of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines (CBCP).

“Don’t make a fool out of him because he is not,” Cruz said, reacting to the plaudits Ms Arroyo received from the Pope.

“He definitely knows about Garci and the other scandals, the killings of activists and journalists, and the all-out war against the New People’s Army,” said the Lingayen-Dagupan prelate who’s familiar with the workings at the Roman Curia.

“He has a picture of the socio-moral condition in the country—I’m quite certain about that.”

Cruz said oversimplifying the Pope’s reaction to suit the administration’s objectives would be an affront to the “kindness and intelligence” of Benedict.

Ratzinger

Formerly Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger, Pope Benedict is best known for his intelligence and humility—two traits seemingly obscured by his tough and controversial job as head of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith.

By protocol, Cruz said the Pope is briefed by Vatican officials on the affairs of a particular country whose head of state or government is coming for a visit.

Benedict’s picture of the Philippine situation was also heavily based on the pastoral statements issued by the CBCP, copies of which are transmitted to the Curia as a matter of protocol, the prelate said.

Since Benedict assumed the throne of St. Peter last year, the CBCP has sent him five pastoral statements, four of which covered major social and political issues in the Arroyo administration.

Search for truth

One of them called for a “relentless” search for the truth about the “Hello Garci” scandal which questioned Ms Arroyo’s victory in the 2004 elections. A subsequent pastoral statement shot down the people’s initiative as a way of changing the Constitution.

“It seems that the changes as they are being proposed now will benefit mainly those who already hold positions of power and privilege in the current political system,” the bishops had said.

Affected by the bishops’ engagement on the moral dimension of political and social issues, Ms Arroyo claimed Pope Benedict did not look kindly on clergymen supposedly meddling in Philippine affairs.

“The Church is not meddling,” said Msgr. Pedro Quitorio, the CBCP spokesperson. “It is the mission of the Church to involve herself in moral issues ... If there is injustice and cheating, the Church must do something.”

Picket ‘surprises’ GMA

Ms Arroyo was also hounded by critics in Rome.

Italian, Filipino and other migrant activists picketed the hotel in Rome where Ms Arroyo was staying to demand an end to the political killings and push for better assistance to overseas Filipino workers.

The activists, numbering about a dozen, carried large streamers calling for Ms Arroyo’s ouster and shouted slogans within earshot of the President as she was about to enter the Grand Hotel on Sunday, said the Netherlands-based European office of Migrante International.

In a statement, Migrante International, which organized the rally, said the protesters were able to position themselves for their protest several minutes before Ms Arroyo arrived at the hotel.

LAST STOP IN ROME: President Arroyo pays a courtesy call on Italian President Giorgio Napolitano at the Palazzo del Quirinale.

MALACAÑANG PHOTO

The picket ended peacefully but organizers said the President and her entourage were “visibly surprised,” it said.

The Filipino activists, according to Migrante, claimed they were misled by Philippine Embassy officials in Rome about the hotel where the President would be staying “but sympathetic media persons gave them the exact information.”

Several Italian and Filipino media agencies covered Ms Arroyo’s arrival and the protest.

Earlier, Filipino migrant organizations in Rome and Milan hosted discussion groups and forums on the killings of political activists in the Philippines, the corruption in the Arroyo administration, and “other fascist and antipeople acts.”

In Milan, Filipino groups distributed information materials on the killings and held prayer vigils.

Real picture

In Manila, militant students said they would write to the Vatican to present the real picture of how the Arroyo administration regards life and human rights.

In a statement, Anakbayan national chair Eleanor de Guzman said various youth groups were planning to send a “petition letter and statement of unity” addressed to the Pope “to give him a clearer picture of the government’s genuine regard for life and human rights.”

De Guzman also said her group scoffed at Ms Arroyo’s proclamation of a “gift of life” to the Pope.

“It’s nothing but a grand lie, a poor attempt at ‘political cleansing,’” said De Guzman.

‘Height of hypocrisy’

The Tanggulan Youth Network for Civil Liberties and Human Rights said the abolition of the death penalty law was the “height of hypocrisy.”

“That the spate of extrajudicial killings continues unabated renders the abolition of the death penalty law a mere token act to boost Arroyo’s image,” said Alvin Peters, convenor of Tanggulan.

Dion Carlo Cerrafon, Student Christian Movement of the Philippines (SCMP) chair, said “it seems that the value of human life is the least concern of the administration. *With reports from Jerome Aning and Alcuin Papa*

World Cup fever leaves GMA cooling her heels

From page A1

The leader of the Center-Left coalition watched Italy edge Australia, 1-0, to win a place in the quarterfinals of the quadrennial soccer spectacle before he sat down for a meeting with Ms Arroyo.

The victory that engulfed Italy in euphoria worked in the Philippines’ favor, said Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye.

A jubilant Prodi agreed to grant almost all the favors Ms Arroyo sought for Filipino workers in Italy.

“It was a good omen,” Bunye said of the delayed meeting at the Palazzo Chigi.

She got what she wanted

The victory sent people out to celebrate, blowing horns, unfurling flags and partying.

Bunye said the delay was also due to Prodi’s winning the plebiscite for amendments to the Constitution, which was also announced late yesterday afternoon.

“So, the talk between the President and Prodi went well, with Prodi in a jubilant mood,” he said.

Bunye said Ms Arroyo’s proposal for the drafting of rules and regulations on migration looked like a “done deal.”

He said Ms Arroyo primarily requested the easing of Italian rules on the entry of migrant workers and allowing any Filipino with a Philippine driving license to automatically get one in Italy, among other things.

“Prodi says they will study it because it applies to the loosening of rules on entry and the stay requirements of OFWs,” Bunye said.

Ms Arroyo also met yesterday with Italian President Giorgio Napolitano at the Palazzo del Quirinale.

Private stop at pilgrim site

After the meeting at 8 p.m., Ms Arroyo flew to Spain. There, she will have a two-day “President’s time” in Santiago de Campostela, a pilgrim site in the northwestern province of Galicia where the remains of Saint James, one of the 12 apostles, are interred in a magnificent cathedral.

The President will be accompanied by First Gentleman Mike Arroyo who will celebrate his birthday there.

“The President needs to rest and like anyone of us, we really need to have private time for ourselves and our families,” Bunye said.

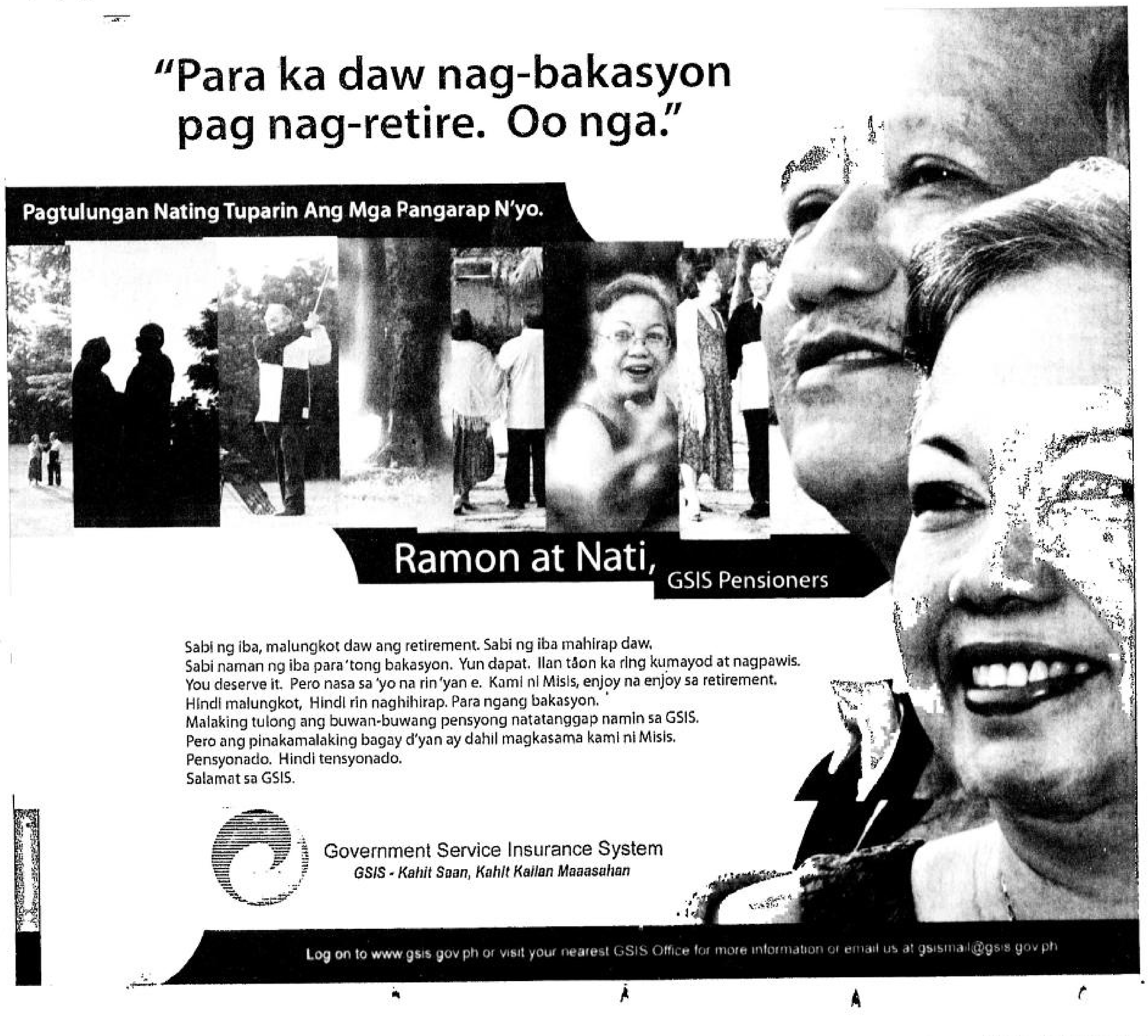
Ms Arroyo’s trip to Spain will coincide with the 4th anniversary of Filipino-Hispano Friendship Day which falls on the 30th of June, Bunye said.

RP-Spain cultural year

She will also be the principal guest at the celebration of Philippine-Spain cultural year 2006 and the Filipiniana exhibit at the Madrid Cultural Center.

During this time, former Labor Secretary Patricia Sto. Tomas will sign an agreement with the Spanish government opening Spain’s doors to Filipino migrants, Bunye said.

Ms Arroyo will also discuss investment possibilities with Spanish businessmen and extend to them her invitation to invest in the areas of alternative energy, IT and tourism in the Philippines.



“Para ka daw nag-bakasyon
pag nag-retire. Oo nga.”

Pagtulungan Nating Tuparin Ang Mga Pangarap N’yo.

Ramon at Nati, GSIS Pensioners

Sabi ng iba, malungkot daw ang retirement. Sabi ng iba mahirap daw.
Sabi naman ng iba para ’tong bakasyon. Yun dapat. Ilan taon ka ring kumayod at nagpawis.
You deserve it. Pero nasa sa ’yo na rin ’yan e. Kami ni Misis, enjoy na enjoy sa retirement.
Hindi malungkot, Hindi rin naghihirap. Para ngang bakasyon.
Malaking tulong ang buwan-buwang pensyong natatanggap namin sa GSIS.
Pero ang pinakamalaking bagay d’yan ay dahil magkasama kami ni Misis.
Pensyonado. Hindi tensyonado.
Salamat sa GSIS.

Government Service Insurance System
GSIS - Kahit Saan, Kahit Kailan Maaasahan

Log on to www.gsis.gov.ph or visit your nearest GSIS Office for more information or email us at gsismail@gsis.gov.ph

EZ2 **SUERTRES**
8 25 2 3 8
SIX DIGIT (All in exact order)
7 3 6 3 4 1

Across the NATION

E-mail: pr_provincial_news@inquirer.com.ph
Text us your feedback: Inquirer atn name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart) *Assistant Editor* **Tony Bergonia**

6/42 Luzon/Vis-Min
10 11 18 19 22 36
₱13,393,926.00

MILF asks gov't, NPA to talk peace

COTABATO CITY—THE MORO ISLAMIC LIBERATION Front (MILF) called on the Philippine government and communist rebels to return to the negotiating table, saying that a continued war would not settle anything but will only increase the sufferings of the Filipino people.

Mohagher Iqbal, MILF chief negotiator, also urged President Macapagal-Arroyo to reconsider her all-out war against the New People's Army (NPA), the armed wing of the Communist Party of the Philippines, since it will not solve the 37-year-old communist insurgency in the country.

Muhammad Ameen, chair of the MILF Secretariat, said the offensive against the 7,500-strong NPA is very disturbing as the government might do the same to the MILF in case the ongoing peace process does not succeed.

"The government had done military berserk (sic) on two occasions in 2000 and another in February 2003, even if the peace talks were in progress. This uncertainty can be linked to a statement made by National Security Adviser Norberto Gonzales in April this year in Davao that there will be war in Mindanao in two years time," Ameen said.

The rebels pulled out of Norwegian-brokered peace talks in 2004 to protest their inclusion in the United States' and European Union's lists of terrorist organizations.

Jesus Dureza, presidential adviser on the peace process, said the government is always open for peace.

Last week, Ms Arroyo ordered the release of P1 billion to fund the campaign against communist rebels.

Of the total funding, the Philippine National Police would get P300 million to "fortify soft targets or ill-equipped police stations."

The MILF made the appeal as the military reported capturing an NPA camp with 164 bunkers in Sitio Bendum, Barangay Busdi in Malaybalay City in its offensives against the rebel group that started on June 8.

Lt. Col. Francisco Simbajon, of the Army's 4th Infantry Division, said soldiers also recovered 125 drums each containing 120 sticks of dynamites.

Simbajon said the rebels maintaining the camp transferred to their main lair some 200 meters away. *Jeoffrey Maitem, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Irked mayor says loggers would be shot dead

DIGOS CITY—MAYOR ARSENIO Latasa has warned illegal loggers here they would be shot dead if they continued cutting trees.

Latasa issued the warning as he ordered local environment officials to coordinate with the police to put a stop to illegal logging.

He said it was better to sacrifice the lives of a few people who continue destroying the environment.

"These people, who are only thinking of their own welfare, should be stopped," he said in the wake of the floods that hit the city since last week.

The floods, triggered by intermittent rains, have swept at least seven houses in the city and destroyed more than P20 million worth of property.

Reynaldo Caballero, disaster action officer, said 33 poor families with 126 dependents suffered severe losses due to the floods.

Officials said rampant tree cutting in upland villages near Mt. Apo was the main cause of the floods.

The decomposing body of a 58-year-old farmer was recovered in Magsaysay, Davao del Sur on June 25. He drowned in flood waters as he tried to cross a bamboo bridge.

Erick Bonbon, of Sta. Cruz, Davao del Sur, was found dead two days after he went missing at the height of the flood that hit the town on June 24.

Latasa said he did not want people killed because of the greed of a few.

"I don't mind losing a few 'bullheads' to save millions (of pesos) worth of property and hundreds of lives that are at stake during flash floods," he said. *Eldie Aguirre, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

ENVIRONMENT Secretary Angelo Reyes takes part in a recycling program of La Trinidad, Benguet with town Mayor Nestor Fongwan. The program seeks to help in the national campaign to preserve forests and stop the illegal cutting of trees.

TOOTS SOBERANO/PDI NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU

Warning system up in Sorsogon villages

IROSIN, SORSOGON—Office of Civil Defense officials yesterday personally turned over bells called "batingting" to serve as an early warning system to the towns most affected by the Bulusan volcano's activity.

OCD turned over a total of six bells to Irosin Mayor Lilia Gonzales and Juban Mayor Tess Guab-Fragata for Barangays Añog and Puting Sapa while assuring Casiguran will also be given three bells.

The warning system would help barangay residents respond to dangers especially during volcanic eruptions or lahar flows, said OCD-Bicol regional director Arnel Capili.

Barangay disaster coordinating councils will get help in establishing their own warning system composed of bell codes that would forewarn the residents of an impending disaster, he added.

Some evacuees housed at the Gallanosa National High School had returned to their residences after being informed that the danger had somehow diminished, said Gonzales.

Only 50 families consisting of 177 persons have remained in the school, according to municipal social welfare officer Hilda Martinez.

In Juban, with over a thousand evacuees, the Municipal Disaster Coordinating Council has yet to decide how to allocate its meager resources for the evacuees even as the danger from the volcano significantly lessened, according to Mayor Guab-Fragata. *Bobby Q. Labalan, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

EMPTY oxygen tanks are transformed into warning bells that are the main components of a system to warn residents of eruptions or lahar flows from Bulusan.

NIÑO JESUS ORBETA/PDI SOUTHERN LUZON BUREAU

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

The public is hereby advised that the following landbased agencies are still suspended for failure to comply with the P1 million escrow deposit requirements as of June 26, 2006.

NAME OF AGENCY

88 International Manpower Services, Inc.
A System International Corporation
A.S.H. Manpower International Services
Achica International Placement Agency
Across the Miles Manpower Resources, Inc.
Active Manpower & General Services
Admirale Human Resources, Inc.
Al Awa'el International Manpower Inc.
Al Naqbi International Manpower Services
Al Taw-amm Manpower Services
Aleba International Manpower
Al-Niel International
Al-Sadiq Manpower Corporation
A-MAX Philippines Intl. Promotion, Inc.
Angle Management Services, Inc.
Aquim International Inc.
Aucarmar Manpower Services
Azozi Manpower Overseas
Bailey Corporation
Beedjade Service Contractors Corp.
Bellestar Promotions, Inc.
Better Living International Placement, Inc.
Biente Uno Promotions, Inc.
BM Talent Pool International Manpower Services
Boom Intl. Recruitment Agency
Brinell International Partners, Inc.
C.A.A. Manpower Corporation
Cade Manpower Management Services Corp.
Camchest Construction Philippines, Inc.
Care International Placement Corp.
Cebu Manpower Corp.
Centrepoint for Interworld Manpower Services
Centrum Promotions & Placement Corp.
Chance Resources & Trading Services Co.
Chartreuse Promotion & Training Center
Chesna Manpower Services
Chorusline International Dancing Star, Inc.
Cinderella International Manpower Services
City Prom Corp.
CLA International Manpower Agency
Corinth Global Services, Inc.
CPI Management Services
Cristar International Promotions Agency, Inc.
Doka Manpower & General Services, Inc.,
EFU Placement
Elysian Recruitment International, Inc.
Emissary Recruitment Group Inc.
Emmylou's Recruitment Agency
Equator Manpower Services, Inc.
EVM Skills Management Services, Inc.
Excellent Search International Agency Corp.
Faasi International Corporation
FEIMS International Manpower Services, Inc.
Ferry International Services Co.
FGC Aggregate Resources
Filpower Skills Consultant Inc.
First Cosmopolitan Manpower & Promotion Services, Inc.
Foreign Manpower Services
FORS International Inc.
Four Star Corporation
G & D Manpower International Inc.
Gammon International Manpower Agency
Gemini International Recruitment Inc.
Global Business World Co. Inc.
Gold and Green Manpower Management
Grandwell Ventures International Manpower Services
Guidance International Inc.
Hayya International Services Corp.
Herbert's International Inc.
Hinichi Manpower Corp
HSG International Management and Services
Icarus International Placement & Promotion
IDM Manpower Services
Intercity Employment Services
International Expertise Placement Inc.
Interphase Manpower Systems Corp
ITSS Resources Inc.
I U P P Incorporated
Jaminah Manpower Services
Jardy Intl. Promotion Agency
JES International Manpower Corp.
JGF Recruitment Services
JNP Promotions International Serviecs, Inc.
Jovial Promotion & Placement Agency
JRT Magica International Plcement
Kotobuki Intl. Promotions,Inc.
KP Manpower Services Corp.
KU-8 International
KV International Manpower Services, Inc.
Lance Placement Services, Inc.
Lavander International Manpower Services
Lidros Service Contractor, Inc.
LPN Manpower Services, Inc.
M and M Placement International
M Japan International Inc
M G.M. International Recruitment Services
M.R.C. Promotion & Management
Maccel Manpower Agency
Magsaysay International Human Resources Inc
Manpower Alliance Corp.
Mariesh International Promotion Agency
Max International Placement Inc.
Maynor International Manpower Services
Micro Pacific Manpower Development Corp.
Mild Star Agency & Promotion Inc.
Mivian International Manpower Aggregate
Modcerina Career Development
Monaliza Placement Agency
Mondial Overseas Corp.
Moreman Development Phils.
Multi-Skills Placement & Training Services, Inc.
Naoko International Promotion Inc.
Nation Manpower Corp.
Neostar International Manpower Services
NIR Placement Center, Inc.
Okazaki International Agency Inc.
Oracle Manpower Agency
Orange International Placement Services
Ortiz Agency & Employment Services, Inc
Prestige Search International Inc
Progressive Employment & Recruitment
Promex Inc
Prophecy Placement & Promotions Services
Prudential Employment Agency Inc.
PVE Placement Agency
RCS Promotions & Overseas Placement, Inc
Reach Manpower International, Inc.
Realworld Corporaton
Rejoice Employment International Corp.
Ren-glo Enterprises Placement Agency
Robinson Worldwide Placement Agency
Romar Overseas Placement & Trading Corp.
Rosas Entertainment & Placement Agency Inc.
Royal Gem Resources and Manpower Development
Safeway International Management Servies
Saranay Philippines, Inc.
SC Libao International Promotion Agency Inc.
Seven Seas Manpower Services Corp.
SGA-Shahara International Manpower Services
Shfia International Manpower Services
Silver Kind International Placement Philippines
Six C's Manpower Centre Inc.
Southeast Asian Placement Center Inc.
SSJ Overseas Manpower Services
Star Dust Resources Corp.
Subaru Enterprises Inc.
Sunrise International Talent Center Inc.
Sunshine Recruitment Agency, Inc.
Supersonic Manpower Services Corp.
Surefast Manpower Services
Tai-fil Manpower Services Corp.
Taurus Resources & Manpower International
TCI Recruitment Corp.
Teknika Skills & Trade Services Inc,
Tessa Recruitment & General Services
Tiffany International Services Inc.
Tokofil International Manpower Services
Town International Manpower Services Inc.
Ultima Entertainment Ventures
Uni-ladd International Recruitment Agency
Unlimited Manpower Resources Inc.
Valentino Promotion
Versatile International Services Inc.
VGE International Manpower Services
Vogue Plus Promotion
VRJ International & Placement Agency
Wama Overseas Employment Agency Inc.
Wellcome Employment Centre Inc
White Bird Business Management & General Services
White Falcon Services, Inc.
World Transman International Placement Inc.
Yarra International Recruitment Co. Inc
Zareiko Productions Inc.
Zen International Management
Zippy International Resources Inc.

The public is encouraged to report to the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) any recruitment activities conducted by the above-named agencies.

POEA Hotlines:
722-11-44 / 722-11-55
email: info@poea.gov.ph
website: www.poea.gov.ph

(PDI–June 28 2006)

6 drown in Bataan; 3 rescued

BALANGA CITY—SIX men who joined a swimming party in Morong, Bataan, drowned on Monday while three of their companions were rescued, police reports said.

Reports from the Bataan police said the bodies of Basil Gamoten, 22, of Makati City; Randolf Mercado, 24, and Mark Arian Matias, 23, both of Tondo, Manila; Henry Bukgayan, 32, of Malate, Manila; and Patrick Cidro, 24, Mandaluyong City, were recovered by rescue workers on Tuesday morning.

The body of the sixth fatality, Jun Hernandez, 26, of Malate, Manila, was recovered on Monday afternoon.

Reports said the victims went to the Morning Star Beach resort in Barangay Poblacion in Morong on Monday to attend an outing organized by a youth group in Metro Manila.

The resort's staff members, according to the reports, warned the victims about the strong waves but the victims ignored the warning and proceeded to swim.

As they were swimming, big waves and a strong undercurrent pulled them to deeper parts of the water.

Police said Valerie Paredes, 22, Nilo Rama, 24, and Dennis Cantonia, 24, were rescued on Monday afternoon. *Greg Refraccion, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

ROUNDUP

3 wounded in attack

MALAYBALAY CITY—Gov. Jose Ma. Zubiri disputed a military report that 25 people were killed in a land dispute in Talakag town on June 22. Earlier, Capt. Ritchie Pabilonia, spokesperson of the Southern Command, said armed members of a *lumad* tribe raided Sitio Kibulad in Barangay Undalang at about 5 a.m. and killed 23 villagers and wounded two others. Two of the attackers, he said, had also been killed. "That's not true," Zubiri told the INQUIRER. He said a *lumad* group had indeed attacked a hamlet in Sitio Kibula but only three people were injured. "One of those injured had claimed that 23 people died during the attack. We sent policemen to the area and found out nobody died," he said. *Grace C. Albasin and Julie S. Alipala, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

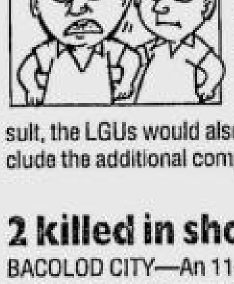
Solcom's Broso: 'Sorry'

LUCENA CITY—Southern Luzon Command spokesperson Maj. Jose Broso said he erred in a report on the supposed surrender last week of a Mangyan tribesman from Mindoro island, who was identified as Rolly Fugoso. (INQUIRER, June 27, page A13) Broso admitted that there was a mix up in the information that reached the command which led to the wrong identification of Fugoso as a New People's Army rebel returnee. The Mangyan Mission in Mindoro said Fugoso was allegedly tortured and forced to admit to being an NPA rebel. The arrest allegedly violated a peace agreement with the Mangyan federation. *Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Power barge burns

LEGAZPI CITY—A power barge of the National Power Corp. docked at the Masbate City port caught fire at about 12:15 a.m. on Friday, disrupting electricity in Masbate province. The damage was placed at P30 million, the Office of Civil Defense here said. Masbate information officer Jaime Ibañez said it would take time before power outside the city was restored. Three fire trucks and two fire boats helped put out the fire, according to OCD regional director Arnel-Capili. *Ephraim Aguilar, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

No funds for wage hike


PAANO NAMAN KAMI?

DUMAGUETE CITY—More than 1,000 employees of the provincial government may not receive their P1,000 in additional monthly compensation that will start in July. Provincial treasurer Danilo Mendez said if there is a salary adjustment, the provincial government might have some difficulty complying with it. He said the expected increase in the Internal Revenue Allotment could not be given to the local governments because the budget had not been approved. As a result, the LGUs would also operate based on last year's budget, which did not include the additional compensation mandated by Malacañang early this year. *Romy G. Amarado, PDI Visayas Bureau*

2 killed in shooting

BACOLOD CITY—An 11-year-old girl was killed while her father was wounded on Saturday when unidentified persons fired at their home in Barangay Salamanca, Toboso town, Negros Occidental. Rochelle Gepitolan died two hours after she was brought to the San Carlos District Hospital. She was buried on Monday. Her father Rodolfo, 41, was still in the hospital, recuperating from a bullet wound in the right leg, said Toboso police chief Senior Insp. Romeo Leyte. Police said Gepitolan family members were having dinner on Saturday night when their home was fired at. *Carla P, Gomez, PDI Visayas Bureau*

E. Pimentel; 65

FORMER governor and two-term congressman Emmanuel "Jess" B. Pimentel, 65, died of cardiac arrest on June 22 at the Leon Hernandez Medical Center, formerly Briola Hospital, in Daet, Camarines Norte. Members of the working press, friends and supporters swamped radio stations in Daet with expressions of condolences over the passing of Pimentel, a former broadcaster. He is survived by wife Purita Guinto, children Jonah and Jay, and their spouses, and three grandchildren. His remains lie at the provincial capitol. He will be buried this afternoon at the Vinzons Catholic Cemetery. *PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

101-year-old lighthouse is Bolinao's landmark

Editor's Note: This is the third of a series of reports on lighthouses in Northern Luzon. The INQUIRER is featuring these century-old structures to highlight their importance to the country's northern sea lanes and call attention to their neglect.

By Yolanda Sotelo-Fuertes
Bolinao, Pangasinan

FOR 101 YEARS NOW, THE CAPE Bolinao lighthouse stands proud atop Punta Piedra Point in Barangay Patar in Bolinao, Pangasinan, guiding ships and vessels cruising the international passage along the South China Sea.

Nestled amid trees, the lighthouse was built in 1905 by Filipino, British and American engineers. It is one of the five major lighthouses in the country and the second tallest, next to the Cape Bojeador lighthouse in Burgos, Ilocos Norte. It has become a prominent landmark that tourists frequent.

While the lighthouse has become a tourist attraction by itself, it has failed to do its 'job' of guiding sea vessels at night

The 30.78-meter (101-foot) tower provides a panoramic view of the blue sea and white beaches, offshore reefs and rock formations, as well as rolling verdant hills. Once in a while, a passing vessel dots the sea, an international route of vessels going to Hong Kong, Japan and the United States.

The 140-step winding stairway of the tower leads to the illumination room, 76.2 m above sea level. According to Pedro Honrada, the lighthouse's head keeper, the lantern is visible 44 kilometers away, guiding seafarers (led toward this area by a lighthouse in Zambales) toward the lighthouse in Poro Point, La Union.

The late Bolinao historian Catalino Catanaoan said the original light machine was manufactured in England, while the lantern, with three wicks and chimneys, was imported from France.

"Filipino machinists were able to copy the original [when they repaired it]. The light machine is rotated by a system of gears like that of a big clock with pendulum of weights, winded and suspended with steel cable," he said.

Kerosene fuel

The lighthouse was fueled by kerosene during its first 80 years of operation. When the Pangasinan I Electric Cooperative extended its lines to Patar, the lanterns were powered by electricity.

In 1999, the lighthouse was renovated through a loan package extended by the Japanese government to the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), which is in charge of the facility. Aside from repairing and repainting the tower, the assistance included setting up of solar panels, a new apparatus and two beacon lights. The panels recharge the lights.

The lighthouse has also been getting the attention it deserves from the municipal government.

In June last year, Mayor Alfonso Celeste entered into a memorandum of agreement with the PCG to "adopt" the Cape Bolinao lighthouse to ensure its preservation and maintenance, under the PCG's "Adopt a Lighthouse Program."

Under the MOA, the PCG continues to be the sole owner of the lighthouse. It has the right to deny entry into the area during emergency cases and is responsible for the operation, repair and regular maintenance of the beacon light and its supporting mechanisms.

On the other hand, the local government will take charge of rehabilitation and maintenance of the immediate vicinity (except that of the beacon, solar panels and other equipment), provide maintenance personnel, and protect the facilities from vandals.

Cultural heritage

The local government is also tasked with promoting the declaration of the lighthouse as a cultural heritage.

Already, the lighthouse compound has been spruced up. The uphill road leading to the tower has been paved through the help of Pangasinan Rep. Arturo Celeste. A view deck has been put up in the area.

The rehabilitation of the administration building and a public bath was funded by the Department of Transportation and Communications.

Brunner Carranza, municipal planning and development officer, said a worker assigned by the local government keeps the area clean all day.

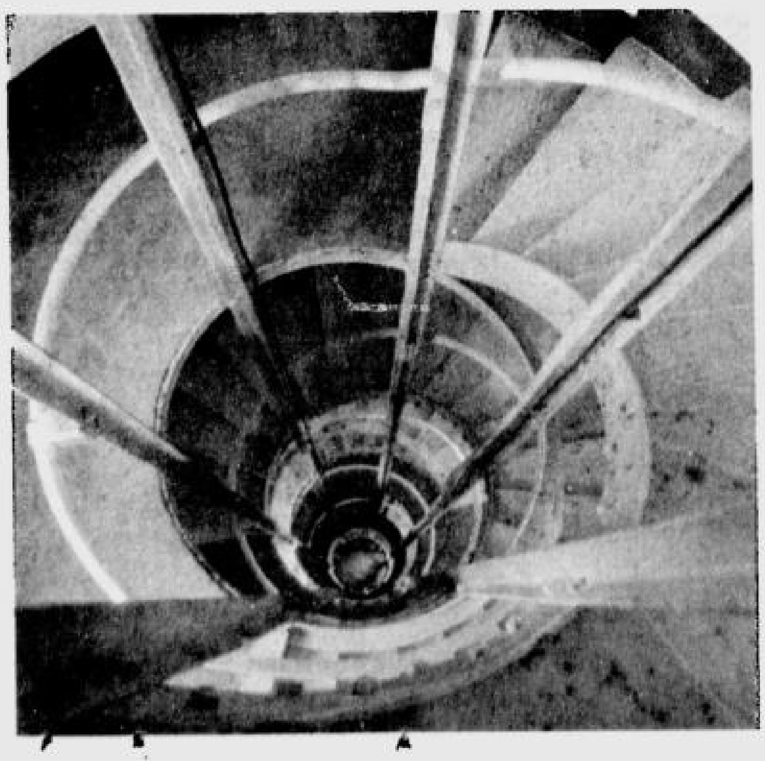
While the lighthouse has become a tourist attraction by itself, it has failed to do its "job" of guiding sea vessels at night, Honrada said.

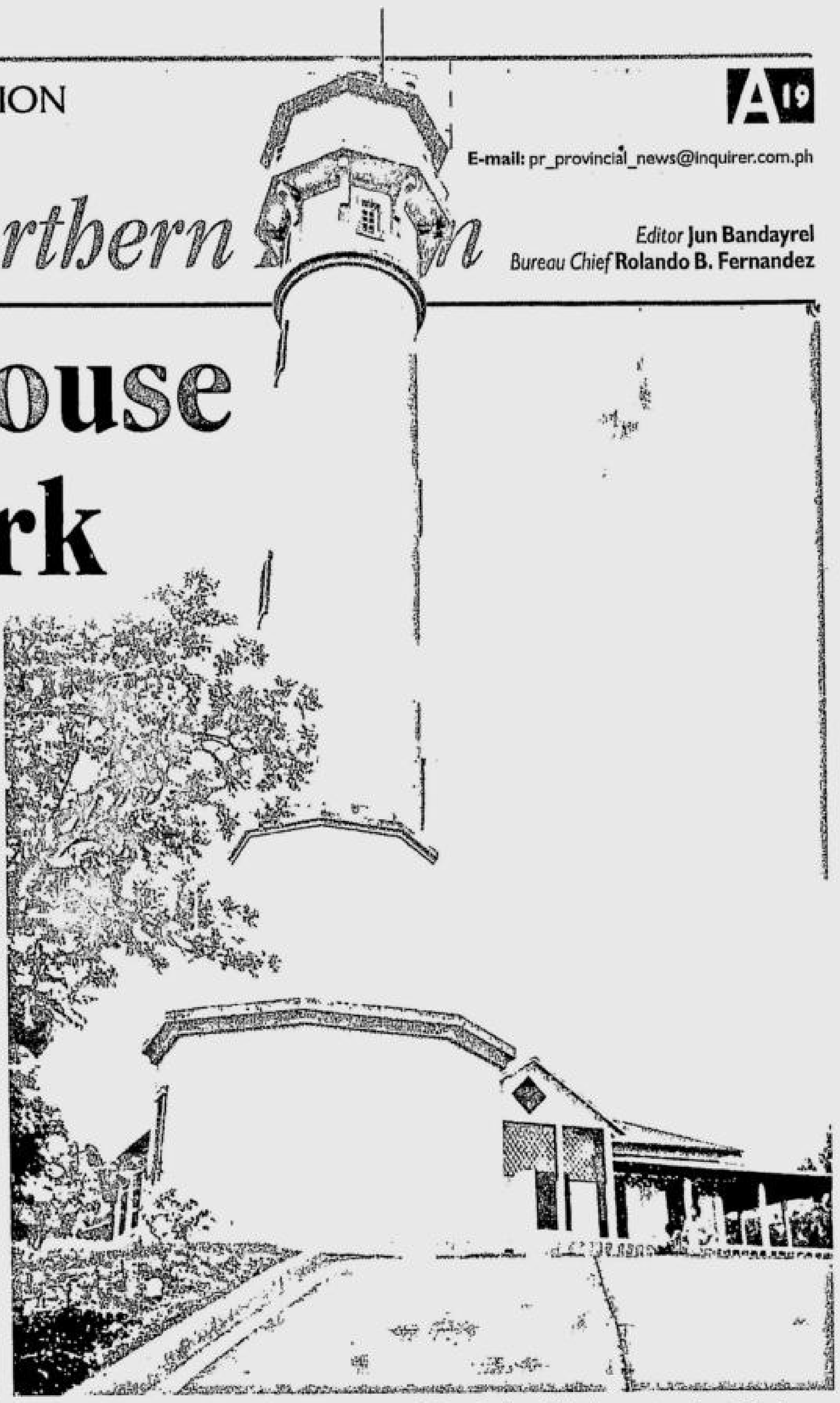
In early November 2004, the beacon lights started to dim until it finally shut off on Nov. 8.

"The batteries bogged down," Honrada said. He has been following up with the PCG navigation command the repair of the batteries that cost about P1 million—to no avail.

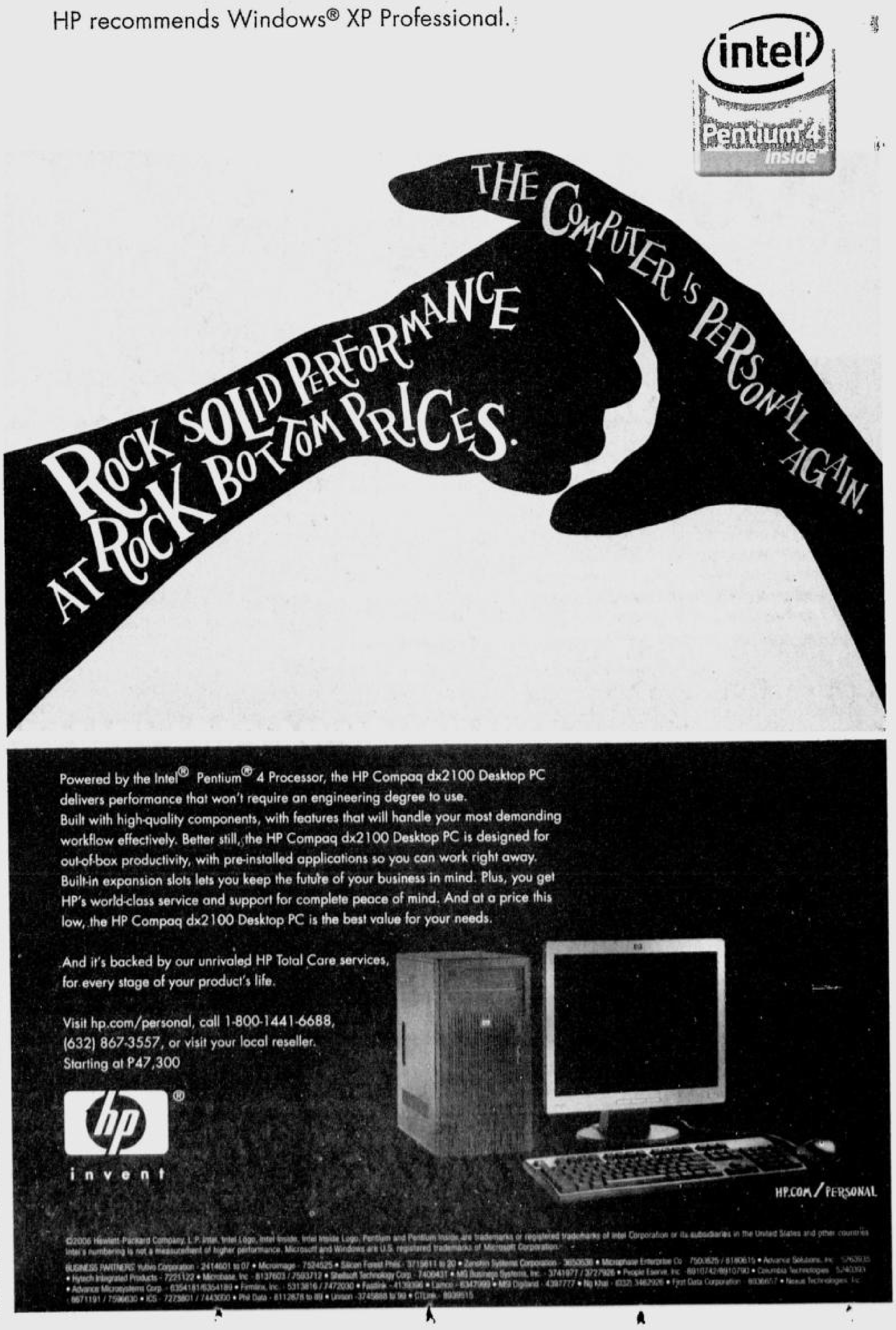
"My wish is that before I retire [in October], the lighthouse will be working again," Honrada said.

THE SPIRAL staircase of 140 steps leads to the illumination room.





THE SOLAR-POWERED and battery-operated Cape Bolinao lighthouse atop Punta Piedra Point in Barangay Patar, Bolinao, Pangasinan, with its 101-foot tower. PHOTOS BY RAY B. ZAMBRANO


intel
Pentium 4
inside
THE COMPUTER IS PERSONAL AGAIN.
ROCK SOLID PERFORMANCE AT ROCK BOTTOM PRICES.
hp
invent
HP.COM / PERSONAL

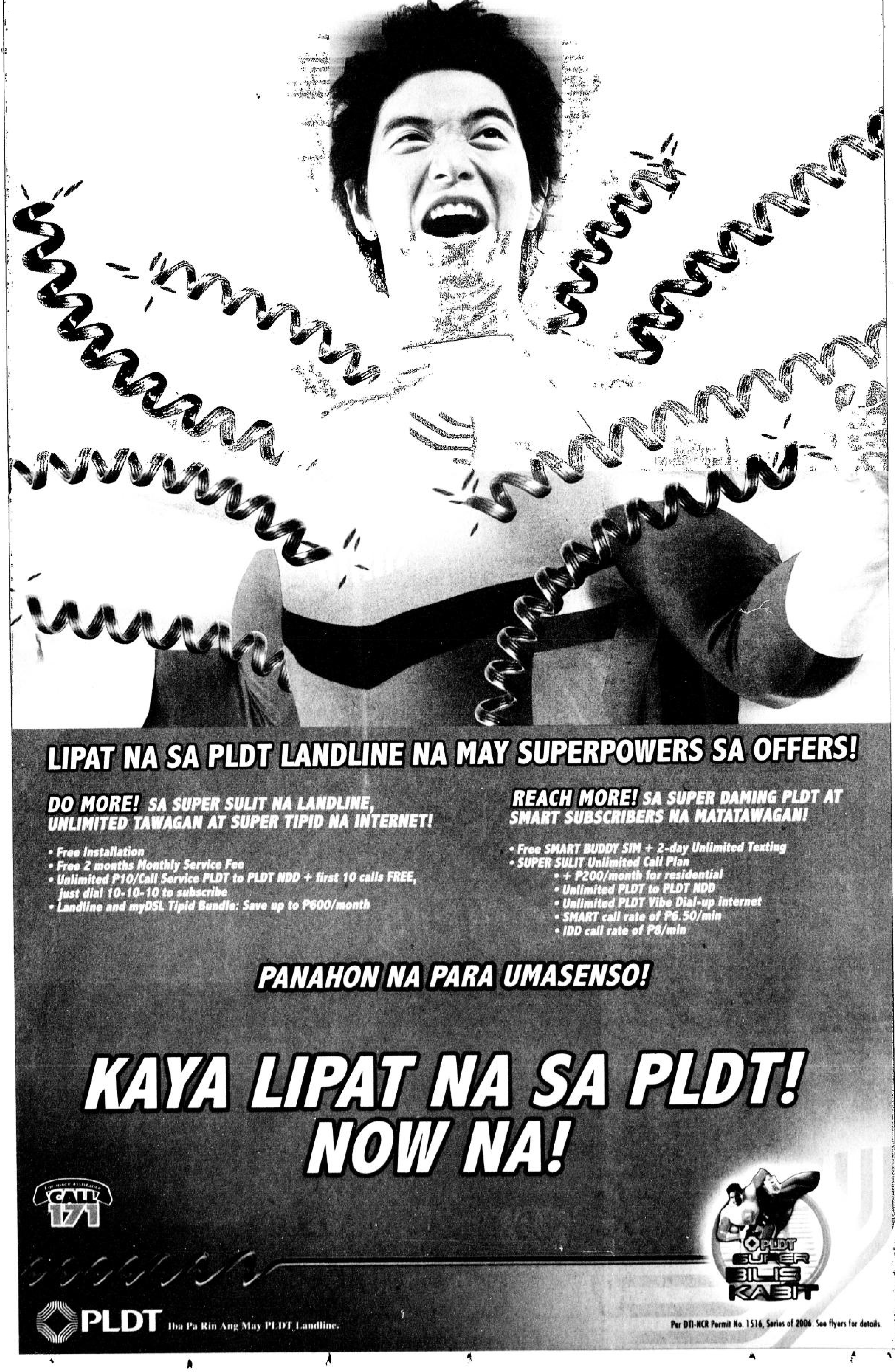
HP recommends Windows® XP Professional.

Powered by the Intel® Pentium® 4 Processor, the HP Compaq dx2100 Desktop PC delivers performance that won't require an engineering degree to use.
Built with high-quality components, with features that will handle your most demanding workflow effectively. Better still, the HP Compaq dx2100 Desktop PC is designed for out-of-box productivity, with pre-installed applications so you can work right away.
Built-in expansion slots lets you keep the future of your business in mind. Plus, you get HP's world-class service and support for complete peace of mind. And at a price this low, the HP Compaq dx2100 Desktop PC is the best value for your needs.

And it's backed by our unrivaled HP Total Care services, for every stage of your product's life.

Visit hp.com/personal, call 1-800-1441-6688, (632) 867-3557, or visit your local reseller.
Starting at P47,300

KUMALAS NA SA LANDLINE NA KAUNTI ANG OFFER!



LIPAT NA SA PLDT LANDLINE NA MAY SUPERPOWERS SA OFFERS!

DO MORE! SA SUPER SULIT NA LANDLINE, UNLIMITED TAWAGAN AT SUPER TIPID NA INTERNET!

- Free Installation
- Free 2 months Monthly Service Fee
- Unlimited P10/Call Service PLDT to PLDT NDD + first 10 calls FREE, just dial 10-10-10 to subscribe
- Landline and myDSL Tipid Bundle: Save up to P600/month

REACH MORE! SA SUPER DAMING PLDT AT SMART SUBSCRIBERS NA MATATAWAGAN!

- Free SMART BUDDY SIM + 2-day Unlimited Texting
- SUPER SULIT Unlimited Call Plan
  - + P200/month for residential
  - Unlimited PLDT to PLDT NDD
  - Unlimited PLDT Vibe Dial-up internet
  - SMART call rate of P6.50/min
  - IDD call rate of P8/min

PANAHON NA PARA UMASENSO!

KAYA LIPAT NA SA PLDT!
NOW NA!

For more assistance
CALL
171

PLDT SUPER BILIS KABIT

PLDT Iba Pa Rin Ang May PLDT Landline.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1516, Series of 2006. See flyers for details.

Protest rally greets new PNU president

Failure to meet standards cited

By Tina G. Santos

SEVERAL FACULTY MEMBERS and students of the state-run Philippine Normal University (PNU) yesterday held a rally to voice their displeasure over the appointment of lawyer Lutgardo Barbo as their new president, saying he had failed to meet some of the minimum standards set for the post.

Students, teachers and administrative staffers wore black shirts as they held a rally and noise barrage inside the PNU campus on Taft Avenue, Manila to question the decision of the eight-member Board of Regents (BOR), the university's highest policy-making body. Black pieces of cloth and a streamer with the message "No to politics, yes to merit" were hung from one of the buildings.

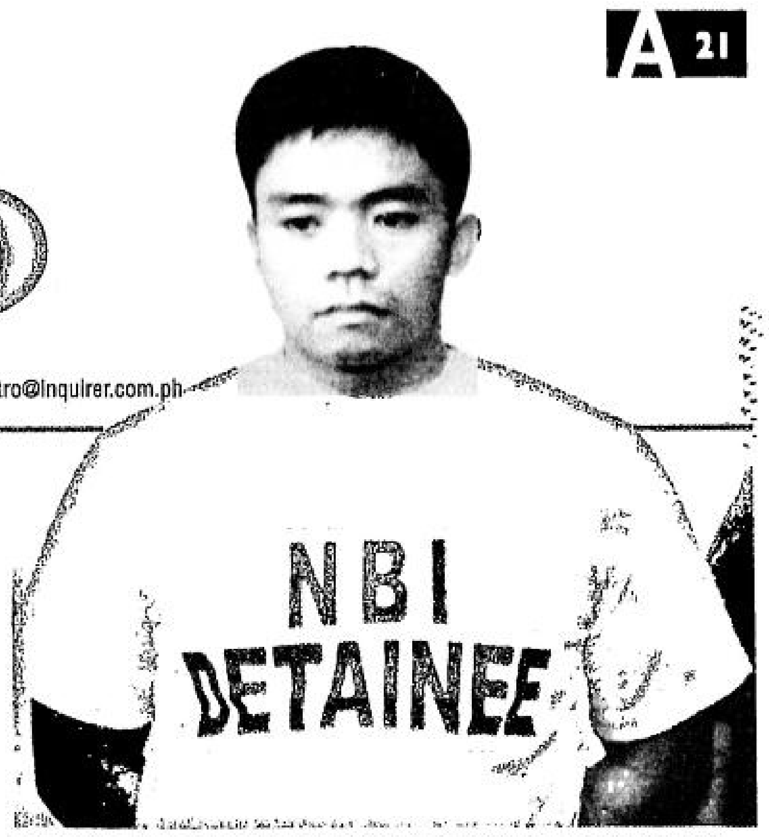
The BOR had chosen Barbo, a former governor of Eastern Samar, over four other nominees—Dr. Esther Ogena, Dr. Twila Punsalan, Dr. Rosa Maria Llanes and Dr. Carolina Danao. The protesters claimed that Barbo's name should not have been included in the final list of three candidates submitted by the search committee.

"We were surprised to find out that he got the position when in fact, he ranked last among the five candidates," said Felice Yeban, a Department of Social Sciences professor. "He does not even have a minimum of five years of administrative experience in teacher education or related fields," she added.

The INQUIRER tried but failed to reach Barbo for comment.

Kidnap gang head arrested

By Margaux C. Ortiz



NOEL Enacmal, alleged leader of the Waray Waray gang, a kidnap-for-ransom group, was arrested last Thursday in San Mateo, Rizal. REM ZAMORA

AUTHORITIES HAVE FINALLY caught the elusive leader of a notorious kidnap-for-ransom (KFR) group operating in Metro Manila.

Noel Enacmal, the suspected leader of the Waray-Waray gang which is being linked to the abduction of at least 20 Chinese-Filipino citizens, was arrested by agents of the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) in his safe house in San Mateo, Rizal last Thursday.

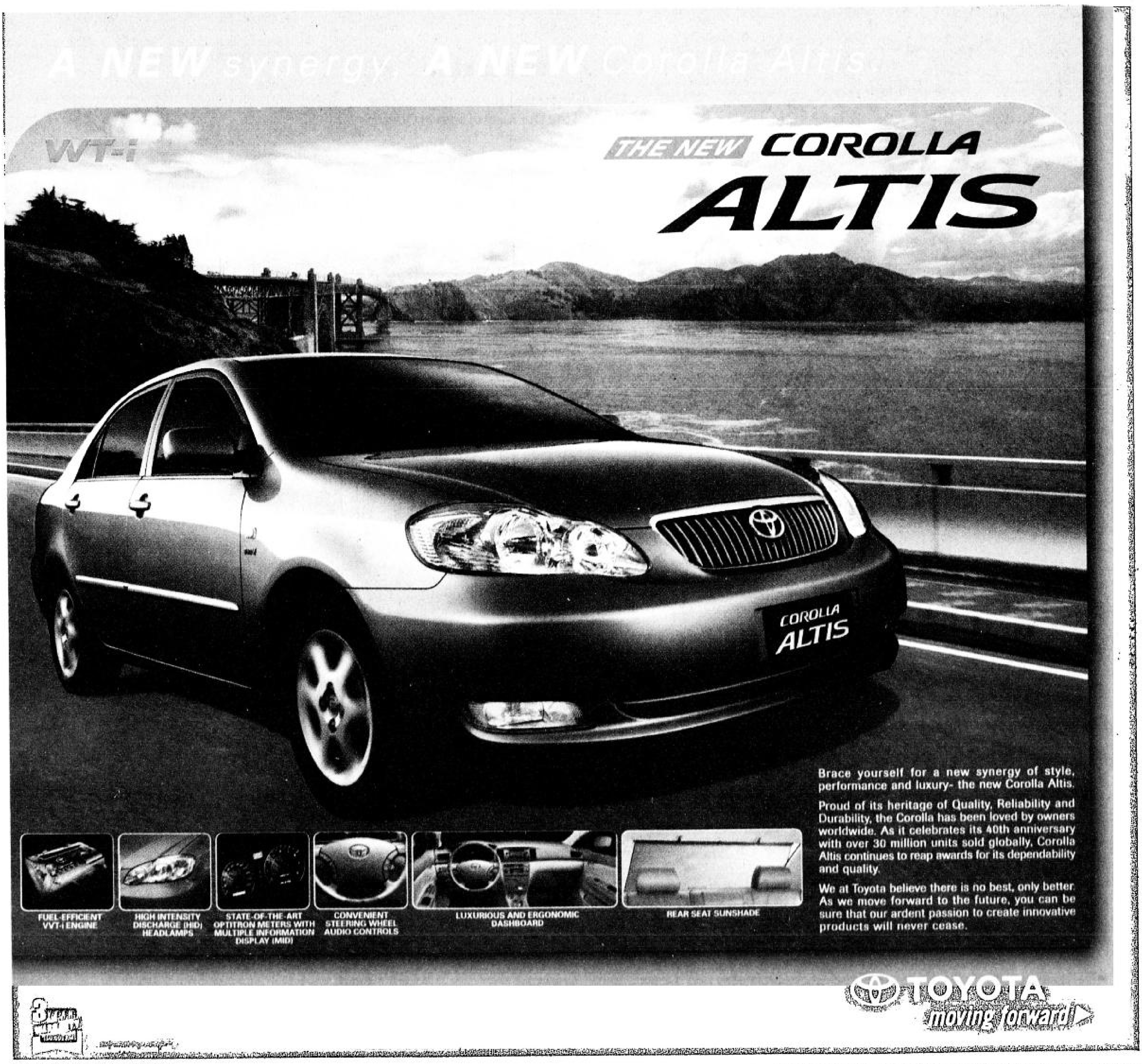
"The group, which Enacmal allegedly headed with Calvin Lagado, was also responsible for a string of pawnshop, payroll and bank robberies in the metropolis," NBI acting director Nestor Mantaring said in a press conference yesterday.

Enacmal also faces charges of robbery after allegedly participating in two Union Bank heists led by the Ilonggo group in Parañaque City, Mantaring said.

The NBI had presented to media three members of the same group last week—Enacmal's brother Fromencio, Gualberto Castillaja and Andres Lucero. The suspects were arrested during successive operations conducted earlier this month.

Based on information provided by Lucero, operatives of the NBI National Capital Region (NCR) Office and the San Mateo police finally traced Enacmal's whereabouts. Regional Director Ruel Lasala, NBI NCR chief, said the Calvin Lagado-Noel Enacmal Waray-Waray group was responsible for the kidnapping and killing of Coca-Cola executive Betti Sy in Parañaque City two years ago.

The group was also involved in the abduction of William Uy in Malabon City; Danny Uy in Malate, Manila; and Gelina Dy in Paco, Manila, among others.


A NEW synergy, A NEW Corolla Altis.
VVT-i
THE NEW COROLLA ALTIS
COROLLA ALTIS
FUEL-EFFICIENT VVT-i ENGINE
HIGH INTENSITY DISCHARGE (HID) HEADLAMPS
STATE-OF-THE-ART OPTITRON METERS WITH MULTIPLE INFORMATION DISPLAY (MID)
CONVENIENT STEERING WHEEL AUDIO CONTROLS
LUXURIOUS AND ERGONOMIC DASHBOARD
REAR SEAT SUNSHADE
TOYOTA
moving forward

Brace yourself for a new synergy of style, performance and luxury- the new Corolla Altis.

Proud of its heritage of Quality, Reliability and Durability, the Corolla has been loved by owners worldwide. As it celebrates its 40th anniversary with over 30 million units sold globally, Corolla Altis continues to reap awards for its dependability and quality.

We at Toyota believe there is no best, only better. As we move forward to the future, you can be sure that our ardent passion to create innovative products will never cease.

TOYOTA FINANCIAL SERVICES 858-8500
TOYOTA DEALER NETWORK: TOYOTA ALABANG, INC., 800-0801 to 32 / 802-1991 TOYOTA BACOLOD CITY, (034) 444-1811 to 13 TOYOTA BAGUIO CITY, (074) 447-0851 / (074) 300-3273 to 74 / (074) 300-4128 / 3825 / (074) 443-6778 TOYOTA BALINTAWAK, INC., 366-8901 to 06 / 364-1547 to 50 / 364-4071 to 75 TOYOTA BALINTAWAK-NORTH, 927-7215 / 17 / 30 / 39 / 927-7242 / 44 / 48 / 52 / 927-7257 / 62 / 65 / 927-7268 / 69 TOYOTA BATANGAS CITY, INC., (043) 723-7386 / (043) 723-7639 TOYOTA BICUTAN PARANAQUE, 777-9500 TOYOTA CABANATUAN CITY, INC., (044) 463-8481 to 87 TOYOTA CAGAYAN DE ORO, INC., (08822) 735-770 / 791 / 846 / (088) 858-9994 / (088) 858-7770 / (08822) 737-480 TOYOTA CEBU CITY, INC., (032) 253-1161 TOYOTA CEBU-MANDAUE, (032) 345-8670 TOYOTA COMMONWEALTH, 952-1021 to 27 TOYOTA CUBAO, INC., 911-0651 to 63 TOYOTA DAGUPAN CITY, INC., (075) 517-2026 to 28 / (075) 522-6771 / 6734/ 4773 TOYOTA DASMARIÑAS CAVITE, (046) 850-2036 / (046) 850-2929 TOYOTA DAVAO CITY, INC., (082) 234-0998 / (082) 234-2994 / (082) 234-8640 TOYOTA ILOILO CITY, INC., (033) 320-6115 to 19 TOYOTA MAKATI, INC., 897-3333 TOYOTA MANILA BAY CORP., 832-3408 to 10 / 832-3432 to 34 / 832-3384 / 832-3437 TOYOTA MARIKINA SERVICE STATION, 682-9701 to 03 TOYOTA OTIS, INC., 564-1811 to 20 TOYOTA PASONG TAMO, INC., 893-8084 TOYOTA QUEZON AVENUE, INC., 712-5001 to 06 TOYOTA SAN FERNANDO, (045) 961-1188 TOYOTA SHAW, INC., 532-4132 / 532-8428 / 534-3000 (telefax) TOYOTA SHAW-ORTIGAS, 671-0854 to 64 / 671-0460

GOODBYE SA INIT!
GOOD BUY SA AIRCON!
45 ACCREDITED SERVICE CENTERS NATIONWIDE
GREE
AIRCON PARA SA PINOY!

GET 7.5%OFF ON 1 HP MODELS
FOR SUPER AFFORDABLE QUALITY, MAG-GREE AIR-CONDITIONER!
*Valid for cash purchases on KW-23P/AP. Promo runs from May 15 to June 30, 2006 only! Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2685, Series of 2006
Every purchase entitles you to 2 FREE CLEANING service sessions! Available at SM Appliance Center, Anson's, Shopwise and Gillamac's.

METROBRIEFS

No super hero

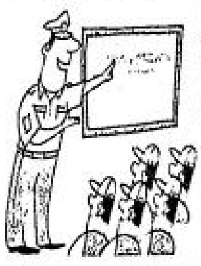
PERHAPS believing he could fly like his favorite super hero, an eight-year-old boy shouted "Captain Barbell!" before jumping to his death in front of a mall in Quezon City on Monday. Joel Mar Torres, an out-of-school youth, died instantly after he leaped from a pylon tower, a triangular structure bearing advertisement signboards, in front of the Robinson's Shopping Center on Quirino Highway, Novaliches, police said. Just before he jumped, Torres was heard shouting "Captain Barbell," the name of a mythical Filipino super hero whose story was turned into a television series by GMA 7. A bystander heard the boy's shout just moments before his body fell to the ground, said Insp. Reynaldo Medina Jr., chief of the general assignment section of the Quezon City Police District criminal investigation division. It was not immediately clear from what height Torres had jumped, but Medina estimated that the pylon tower was at least two stories high. "He was alone, and he probably felt like climbing that high. It's possible that he had sniffed a solvent and was having hallucinations," Medina said. Torres' body is now in the crime laboratory for autopsy, he said.

DJ Yap

Training for QC barangay 'tanod'

BARANGAY watchmen or "tanod" in Quezon City are undergoing police training to beef up peacekeeping measures in the city. More than 2,000 have so far completed a month-long refresher course in fighting crime, a project of the QC Peace and Order Council in coordination with the QC Police District. The "tanod" were taught different techniques in making arrests, proper handling of evidence and defense tactics, with operatives from QCPD's legal service, crime investigation and crime laboratory divisions giving the lectures. More barangay watchmen are expected to undergo the same training soon. Mayor Feliciano Belmonte Jr., who chairs the peace and order council, said the refresher course could help the "tanod" become effective partners of the police in the drive against criminality. QCPD director Chief Supt. Nicasio Radovan Jr. said the course could help establish close coordination between barangay watchmen and policemen. *DJ Yap*

Cops nab helper



POLICE arrested on Monday night the helper of basketball player Chris Calaguio whom his wife accused of stealing bags and grocery items from their house in Marikina City. But helper Joy Masangkay, 19, denied the allegations, PO2 Albert Zeller told the INQUIRER. She also told the police she was forced to leave the house because she was being maltreated. Calaguio's wife Meral, 28, had reported to the police that Masangkay, who had been serving the family for about a month, left their house on Sunday afternoon and took the items, including the P2,500 savings of another helper. Calaguio was busy playing for his team, San Miguel Beer, that Sunday afternoon. The family also watched the game at the Araneta Coliseum, leaving Masangkay alone in their house in Barangay Jesus Dela Pena. The following day, investigators managed to track down Masangkay. She was already working for another employer on Dangal Street in Sta. Mesa, Quezon City, where police traced her after she left her phone number to friends.

Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

MMDA launches new complaint service

By Tarra V. Quismundo

DO YOU HAVE A GRIPE against operations conducted by the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority's operations? Let your camera-equipped cell phones do the complaining.

The MMDA has launched the Multimedia-Aided Monitoring Service (MAMS), a feedback mechanism through which residents in Metro Manila would be able to send to the agency pictures taken using their cellular phones.

The picture could be of any problem they encounter on the road such as flooding, uncollected garbage or corrupt traffic enforcers.

"They could send us pictures of any concern that falls under the MMDA's responsibility or any problem they see around Metro Manila, and we will refer it to the agency concerned. A picture is the best evidence," said MMDA Traffic Operations Center executive director Angelito Vergel de Dios.

Anybody with a cell phone equipped with the MMS (multimedia messaging service) feature can avail of the feedback mechanism. Complaints should be sent to 0920-9389861 or 0920-9389873. Senders, however, will be charged the standard MMS rates for every message sent.

MMDA Metropolitan Road Rules Enforcement System (MRRES) chief Mon Santiago said senders should indicate where the picture was taken but they can opt not to identify themselves.

"The location should be indicated so we could respond immediately. What will happen is after we receive the message, we would capture or download the picture into a computer," he told the INQUIRER yesterday.

The MMDA Metro Base, the agency's 24-hour road monitoring system, would then inform the unit to look into the problem, said Santiago, who was among those who designed the MAMS.

"The system is now in place but we are still improving it to make our response faster," he added.

According to Santiago, the sender would receive a text message as soon as the MMDA has acted on the problem.

The MAMS program is the brainchild of MMDA chair Bayani Fernando.

Man shot dead after kidnap try

By Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

A GYM INSTRUCTOR WAS shot dead by policemen in Antipolo City on Monday after he tried to kidnap a friend.

Ramil Nicodemos, 29, died of multiple gunshot wounds after he allegedly shot it out with responding policemen, PO2 Rodel Druja told the INQUIRER.

His alleged victim, stewardess Joana Ramos, 38, was rescued unharmed.

Druja said Ramos and Nicodemos first met two years ago and had been exchanging text messages ever since. Nicodemos had found out that Ramos was looking for a helper so he volunteered to accompany her from Quezon City to Antipolo City on Monday, saying he knew someone who was looking for work. But while they were inside the vehicle, Ramos got suspicious, she told the police. She got out of the van but Nicodemos forced her to return.

Policemen chanced upon the commotion but instead of giving up, Nicodemos got shot at the law enforcers with a 9 mm handgun.

DID YOU KNOW

Did you know that the positioning of the hands of the Our Lady of Edsa in Quezon City has a meaning?

The Virgin's left hand is upturned, and the right hand is outstretched to symbolize that she is receiving the grace of God and passing it on to the people. The three doves flitting beside the sculpture were placed in honor of the late curator Adiel Arevalo— friend of sculptor Virginia Ty-Navarro—and John Gokongwei and Paquito Ortigas, who both donated the land on which the Edsa Shrine was built. *PDI Research*

NCRPO Chief Gen. Vidal Querol: Not to worry EDWIN BACASMAS

Binay, Querol clash on bomb drill timing

By Tarra V. Quismundo

IF IT WERE UP TO MAKATI Mayor Jejomar Binay, no bomb attack simulation would be held in the country's financial district, especially since it had just been weeks since two explosions hit the city.

Binay yesterday expressed "serious reservations" on the plan of the National Capital Region Police Office (NCRPO) to simulate a bomb attack somewhere in the city, saying "detonating a bomb in the heart of the country's financial center might cause undue panic."

"Detonating a bomb on Ayala Avenue during a work day is not the way to assure the public of protection. If the drill is intended to show our response to a bomb attack, then it means that an attack has already occurred and our security preparations have failed," the mayor said in a statement.

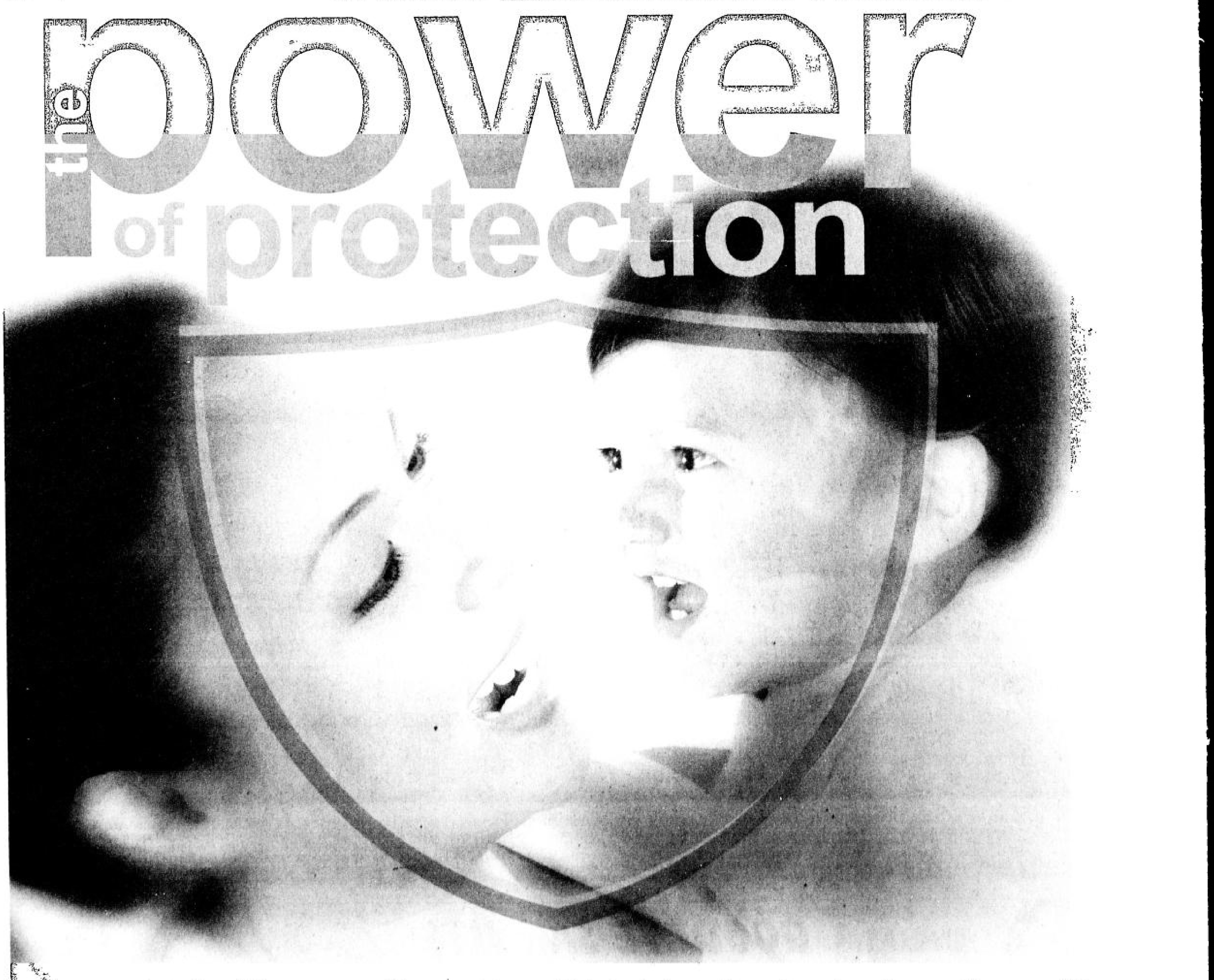
NCRPO chief Vidal Querol, who had proposed the exercise, however, said the drill was meant to test the city's preparedness for such an attack. "We are not going to scare the people and the captains of industry in Makati," said Querol.

He added that plans for conducting the bomb attack simulation have yet to be finalized, but the drill was likely to be scheduled within the week.

"The goal is to find out if their incident management plans are workable. I am still going to talk to Ayala's security managers. I had told them that they should choose a time, date and place that would not be bad for business," Querol said.

He explained that the drill would not involve detonating a bomb on Ayala Avenue since it would only be a simulation of an attack.

For Binay though, it would be better to employ teamwork to avert such attacks, citing that holding the drill at this time "might be misinterpreted as an actual bomb attack" if shown in international news channels.



Age 1 is **the Discovery Stage.** Your child starts to walk and explore the world around him.
He needs protection now, more than ever, for him to discover the world and go further.

Thailand's political parties face dissolution

BANGKOK—PROSECUTORS said Tuesday they will ask a court to consider dissolving both the ruling and the main opposition parties over claims of vote fraud, in a move that threatens to push Thailand back into political turmoil.

Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra's ruling Thai Rak Thai and the opposition Democrats face separate claims of wrongdoing in the run-up to snap elections held on April 2, which the courts have since invalidated.

"Prosecutors have decided that the cases should be submitted to the Constitutional Court to consider dissolving the parties," the attorney general's spokesperson Attaphon Yaisawang told reporters.

"The prosecutors believe that there is enough evidence to submit the cases to the Constitutional Court," Attaphon said.

"Prosecutors will draft the appropriate letters and send them to the Constitutional Court as soon as they are finished," probably within the week, he added.

The Democrat Party, the country's oldest, has been charged with six violations of electoral law, including a claim that its boycott of the April 2 polls was illegal, he said.

Thaksin's party has been charged with breaking two laws, including illegally financing fringe groups to contest the election in a bid to boost the polls' credibility after the boycott.

Prosecutors will also ask the court to dissolve three fringe groups that Thai Rak Thai is accused of bankrolling.

Thaksin on Sunday denied any wrongdoing, and the Democrat spokesperson on Tuesday also insisted the party was innocent.

"We didn't do anything wrong," spokesperson Ong-art Klampaiboon said. "I have no idea why the party should be dissolved." He also questioned why the attorney general had decided to pursue the charges against the Democrats so quickly, just one day after the Election Commission made the accusation.

Attaphon said the decision to bring the parties before the court was made in a unanimous vote by a panel of 11 of the nation's top prosecutors.

The prospect of Thailand's two most powerful parties being disbanded pushes the country farther into uncharted political waters after months of turmoil.

"We've never had this kind of crisis before," said Ukrist Pathmanand, a professor of political science at Chulalongkorn University.

"If the court finds the parties guilty, the whole political party system would be weakened. We will not have any political leaders. It could deepen our political crisis." If the parties are dissolved their leaders would be barred from forming new ones for five years.

The courts have taken an unprecedented role in the country's political crisis since the nation's revered King Bhumibol Adulyadej ordered judges on April 25 to take action. Since the king's televised speech, in which he branded the elections as "undemocratic," the courts have invalidated the April snap polls and set the stage for new elections tentatively set for Oct. 15.

Thaksin, 56, had called the elections in hopes of ending months of mass street protests in Bangkok accusing the billionaire politician of using his office to enrich his business empire. Despite the discontent in Bangkok, his popularity in rural Thailand gave his party a clear victory. *AFP*

WORLDBRIEFS

Russia confirms envoys' deaths

MOSCOW—Russia has confirmed that four of its diplomats taken hostage in Iraq are dead, after a gruesome Internet video purportedly showed two of the men being executed. "It's with deep sadness that we announce that the workers at Russia's embassy in Iraq have quite obviously suffered the ultimate despite all the measures taken for the freeing of our compatriots," the foreign ministry said in a statement released on Monday. An insurgent coalition led by al-Qaida said Sunday it had killed the four men—Fyodor Zaytsev, Rinat Aglyulin, Anatoly Smirnov and Oleg Fedosseyev—in a statement published on an Internet site used by militant groups. *AFP*

Bombs kill 40 in Iraq

BAGHDAD—Powerful bombs ripped through markets in two Iraqi cities at dusk Monday, killing at least 40 people and wounding 89. The attacks hit Baqouba and Hillah just hours after two key lawmakers told The Associated Press that Sunni Arab insurgent groups had contacted the government about joining a reconciliation effort. The deadliest attack—a bicycle bombing in Baqouba, the Sunni insurgent stronghold 60 km northeast of Baghdad—killed at least 25 and wounded 33, according to Dr. Ahmed Fouad, director of the morgue at Baqouba General Hospital. Minutes earlier a marketplace blast in Hillah, a mainly Shiite city, killed at least 15 people and wounded 56, said police Capt. Muthana Khalid. *AP*

Disgraced scientist stripped of state honors

SEOUL—South Korea was moving to strip disgraced cloning scientist Hwang Woo-suk of state honors he received for stem cell research later revealed to be faked, an official said Tuesday. Hwang will be stripped of his Order of Science and Technology Merit Changjo Medal in July, said Min Jin-kee, an official in charge of the issue at the Ministry of Government Administration and Home Affairs. The 52-year-old scientist was indicted last month for allegedly accepting 2 billion won (US$2 million) in private donations based on the outcome of falsified research and embezzling about 800 million won (US$834,000) in private and government research funds. If convicted, Hwang faces at least three years in prison, which could also see him lose another honor, the Order of Service Merit Red Stripes, Min said. *AP*

ENDANGERED
A Slender Loris (Loris Tardigradus) walks on a branch at a shelter in Bangalore. The tiny primate, measuring six to 10 inches long and weighing about 350 grams, has been hunted for centuries for its purported qualities as an aphrodisiac, asthma cure and as a kind of living voodoo doll. AFP

Mahathir expects expulsion from ruling party

KUALA LUMPUR—FORMER MALAYSIAN LEADER Mahathir Mohamad said Tuesday he expects to be expelled from the ruling party following his unbridled criticism of the government that has roiled the country's politics and raised fears of instability.

"I know there is this process of demonizing me" in the ruling United Malays National Organization party, Mahathir told reporters. "I think they will take action to expel me... they are building up toward it," he said.

Mahathir's relations with the government have plummeted in recent months in the wake of his stinging attacks on Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

Although Umno has backed Abdullah in the row, Mahathir is believed to have some supporters in the party, creating fears that he could split the party and destabilize the government.

Deputy Prime Minister Najib Razak said Tuesday that Umno has taken no stance on whether Mahathir should remain in the party.

"We have not talked about such matters... we have not taken any position," he told reporters. *AP*

E. Timor's ex-PM faces probe over death squad

DILI—EAST TIMOR'S FORMER premier is to be questioned this week over allegations he authorized the arming of a hit squad tasked with silencing his opponents, the prosecutor-general said Tuesday.

Mari Alkatiri, who has denied the allegations, resigned on Monday after caving in to mounting criticism, demonstrations and resignations of government ministers.

"We have summonsed him to appear in the prosecutor's office for interrogation," prosecutor-general Longuinhos Monteiro told AFP, adding that Alkatiri was expected at the office on Friday.

Asked if the former premier could face charges after questioning, Monteiro said: "I don't want to comment on it now. We will see what the answers are that the prime minister will give."

An Australian documentary broadcast last week purported to show evidence of Alkatiri's involvement in arming a secret hit squad, triggering a demand by President Xanana Gusmao for him to stand down.

Alkatiri's spokesperson, Miguel Sarmento, could not say if the former premier had received a summons but cast doubt over whether he could be questioned until a new premier had been appointed.

"It's not sure if it will be Friday. I am not sure if Mr Alkatiri has received anything or not... I also heard comments from others but not the prime minister," he told AFP.

Monteiro said the interrogation would serve as a "cross check" following questioning of former Interior Minister Rogerio Lobato, who is accused of distributing arms to civilian members of the squad. *AFP*

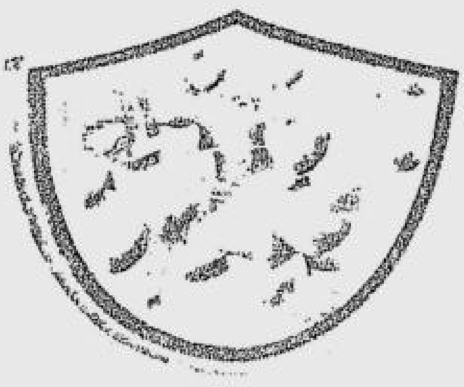
Nestlé
Introducing new NIDO 1+
with Lactobacillus PROTECTUS™
the latest innovation in milk nutrition

The 3-Point Revolution

Lactobacillus PROTECTUS

1 The Only Milk With Live Lactobacillus PROTECTUS™

NIDO 1+ is the first to introduce Lactobacillus PROTECTUS™ in a milk powder. It is a live microorganism that helps build your child's body defenses.



2 How It Works

Once NIDO 1+ is mixed with water, the Lactobacillus PROTECTUS™ multiplies by the millions and when consumed start to boost your child's immune system.

3 Active Protection And More!

NIDO 1+ also has Prebio¹ – a unique blend of natural fiber – and essential vitamins and minerals that further strengthen his immune system. Plus DHA for visual and mental development.

Continuous Drinking = Continuous Protection

The Nestlé Research Center

This milk innovation was scientifically developed by the Nestlé Research Center in Switzerland, a pioneer in nutrition research. The Nestlé Research Center's scientists, doctors and nutritionists work constantly to improve nutritional standards the world over.

Protecting the world's No.1 child

The NIDO Nutrition System

Nestlé
NIDO
1+
Active Protection
Nestlé
NIDO
3+
Protection Active Stimulation

Israel gears up for major offensive on Gaza Strip

KEREM SHALOM, ISRAEL—THOUSANDS OF ISRAELI TROOPS massed on the Gaza border Tuesday, poised for an offensive to free a kidnapped teenage soldier likely to trigger a sharp escalation in Middle East violence.

The 19-year-old Israeli corporal, who also holds French nationality, was snatched on Sunday in a brazen raid on an army post on the Gaza Strip border in which two other Israeli servicemen and two Palestinian fighters were killed.

Israel has flatly rejected a demand from three Palestinian groups, including the armed wing of the governing Hamas movement, for the release of all Palestinian women and children from Israeli jails in exchange for information on the soldier.

Although Israel has said it will first exhaust diplomatic efforts to free 19-year-old Gilad Shalit, Palestinians in southern Gaza have abandoned border homes fearing a large-scale assault, while militants fearing assassination have gone to ground.

Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert has imposed a full naval and ground blockade on Gaza, amid fears that Hamas militants could try to smuggle Shalit out.

"There will be no negotiations, no bargaining, no agreements," Olmert said Monday, warning that a "large-scale military operation is approaching." "We will not wait indefinitely, because we have no intention of being blackmailed by Hamas," the prime minister thundered.

Sunday's attack, which saw gunmen from Hamas's armed wing and other militant groups tunnel their way into Israel, was the deadliest militant assault in the area since Israel's pullout of the Gaza Strip last summer.

The ensuing standoff between Israel and the Palestinian Authority, under huge pressure to ensure that Shalit is returned alive, has provoked the worst Middle East crisis since the Islamists of Hamas formed a government in March.

Scores of Israeli tanks and armored vehicles lined up in farmland in the south near the Kerem Shalom crossing between the Gaza Strip and Jewish state, their turrets and guns pointing straight towards the Palestinian territory.

Army radio reported deployments of two infantry regiments and two armored battalions, which would put the concentration of troops at around 5,000.

Turning the screws on the Hamas-led government—boycotted both politically and financially by the West over the group's status on terror blacklists—one cabinet minister warned Israel could easily kidnap its high-profile members.

"If we start with kidnappings, Israel has no problem entering the Gaza Strip and kidnapping half the Palestinian government," Benjamin Ben-Eliezer told army radio on day three of the hostage crisis. The infrastructure minister, who belongs to the center-left Labour party, said the soldier was "alive" while the radio station reported that he had fractured his hand and was wounded in the stomach.

Amos Gilad, a senior defense official, stressed that Israel was "combining political and military pressure" to end the kidnapping but said the government had taken "all measures necessary in order to be ready to act at any moment". An editorial in Israel's tabloid Maariv newspaper emphasized the seriousness of the situation as Shalit's life hung in the balance. *AFP*

THIS photo shows an Enhydris Gyli, known locally in West Kalimantan as Kapuas mud snake, which can change its skin color. AP

Chameleon-like snake discovered in Indonesia

JAKARTA—SCIENTISTS IN INDONESIA have discovered a new and mysterious species of snake in the depths of rain forest-clad Borneo which has the ability to change colors, the WWF conservation group said Tuesday.

The half-meter long snake, known locally as a "mud snake," was collected by a WWF consultant and a German reptile expert in the wetlands along the Kapuas River in West Kalimantan more than a year ago.

"It has since been established that it is really a new species," the WWF's Iwan Wibisono told AFP.

"The peculiar thing with this snake, is that it can change color... That is relatively rare among snakes," he told AFP.

The feat, which some reptiles have mastered in order to evade predators, was discovered when the reptile experts put the reddish-brown snake into a pail and it turned white, he said.

He noted that the ability to morph colors was typically a defense mechanism among reptiles.

"But since the mud snake is poisonous, what purpose does the color-changing ability serve?" Wibisono asked. Scientists are speculating that its camouflaging ability was linked instead to allowing it to catch food, he added.

The WWF and environmentalists have warned that rapid deforestation on Borneo, where vast tracts of rainforest still remain, threatens to destroy chances of discovering more undiscovered species harbored there. *AFP*

Bush slams US media over bank-data report

WASHINGTON—PRESIDENT GEORGE W. Bush said it was "disgraceful" that the American news media had disclosed a secret CIA-Treasury program to track millions of financial records in search of terrorist suspects. The White House accused The New York Times of breaking a long tradition of keeping wartime secrets.

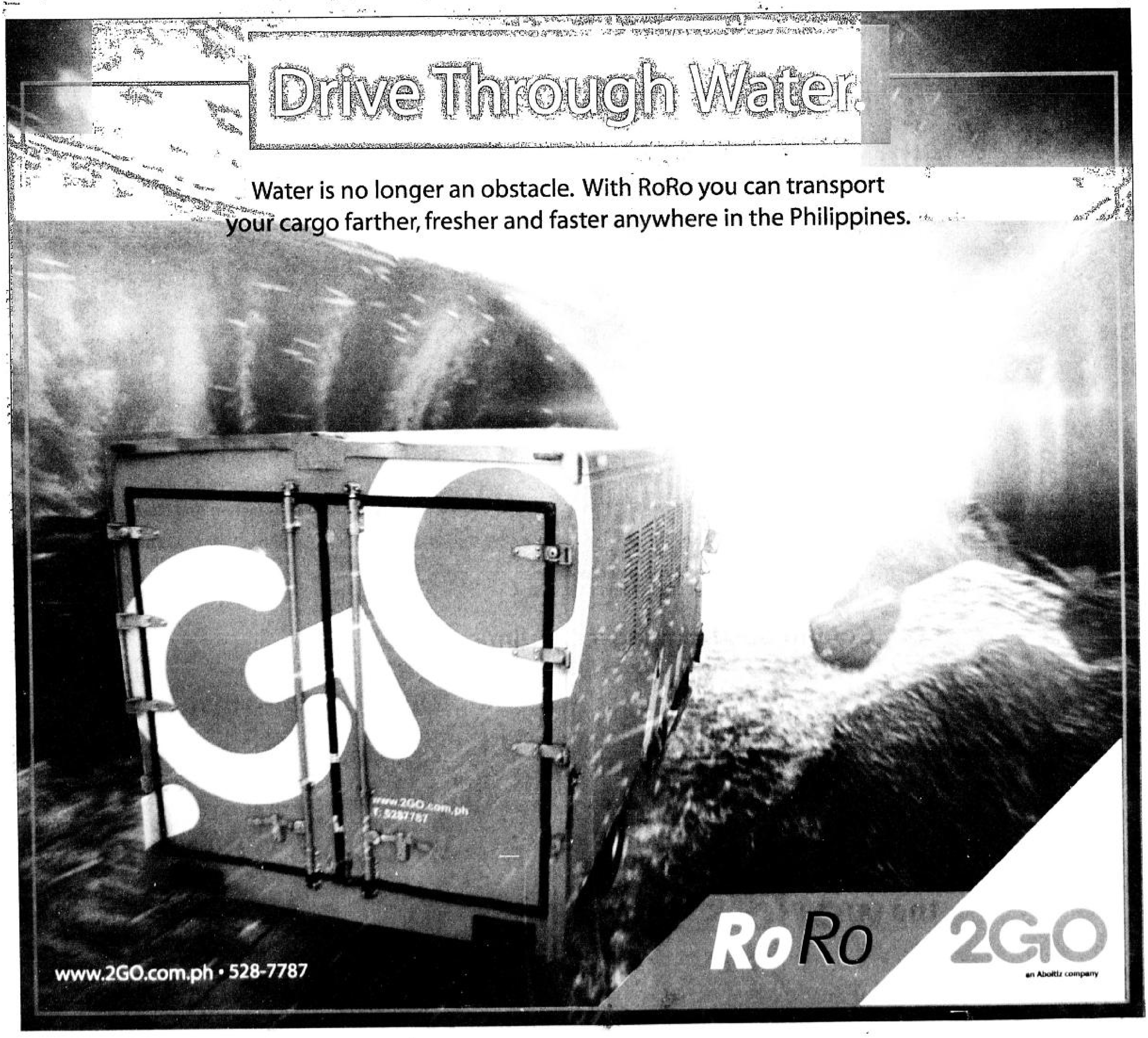
"The fact that a newspaper disclosed it makes it harder to win this war on terror," Bush said Monday, leaning forward and jabbing his finger during a brief question-and-answer session with reporters in the Roosevelt Room.

The Times has defended its effort, saying publication has served America's public interest.

The newspaper, along with the Los Angeles Times and the Wall Street Journal, revealed last week that Treasury officials, beginning shortly after the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks, had obtained access to an extensive international financial data base—the Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunication, or Swift.

The New York Times late last year also disclosed that the National Security Agency had been conducting warrantless surveillance in the United States since 2002 of people with suspected al-Qaida ties.

"Some in the press, in particular The New York Times, have made the job of defending against further terrorist attacks more difficult by insisting on publishing detailed information about vital national security programs," Vice President Dick Cheney said in a speech at a political fundraising luncheon in Grand Island, Neb. *AP*


Drive Through Water.
Water is no longer an obstacle. With RoRo you can transport your cargo farther, fresher and faster anywhere in the Philippines.
www.2GO.com.ph
528-7787
www.2GO.com.ph • 528-7787
RoRo
2GO
an Aboitiz company

WHAT'S INSIDE

Puncher's gloves for Pacquiao /A26

E-mail: pr_sports@inquirer.com.ph

SPORTS

Editor **Teddyvic S. Melendres**

Text us your feedback: Inquirer sprt name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Ukraine, Italy set quarterfinal showdown /A28

PBA levies P500,000 fine on Bulls

By June Navarro

UNIMPRESSED BY THE MESSAGE RED BULL tried to make via a near-walkout that marred Game 4 of the Gran Matador Brandy-PBA Philippine Cup semifinals, the league came down hard on the Bulls yesterday, slapping the team with a whopping P507,000 in fines.

GAMES TODAY
(*Araneta Coliseum*)
4:45 p.m.—Alaska vs Purefoods
7:35 p.m.—San Miguel Beer vs Red Bull

The Photokina franchise was fined P400,000 for what the Commissioners Office said was an action inimical to the paramount interest of the league.

Coach Yeng Guiao, who initiated the court clear-out, was fined P100,000.

Lordy Tugade was asked to pay P6,000 for foisting a middle finger at the crowd, while team scorer Edgar Fernandez was also fined P1,000 for blurting out offensive language at league officials.

The league justified Guiao's fine, saying the mercurial Red Bull mentor admittedly instigated the walkout, shouted invectives at PBA officials and displayed acts unbecoming of a head coach.

"He (Guiao) admitted that they are not justifying their act of walking out from the game," said PBA commissioner Noli Eala. "He asserted that it was his decision to send a message to the officials of his disgust and displeasure about the officiating."

The Bulls now have one venue left to make their point: a pivotal Game 5 against San Miguel Beer at the Araneta Coliseum today.

The Bulls and the Beermen collide in a crucial match of what has been reduced to a race-to-two affair, right after a wary Alaska squad tries to finish off struggling Purefoods.

The controversy is reminiscent of the walkout staged by Robert Jaworski and the Añejo Rhummakers in Game 6 of the 1991 First Conference Finals. Shell was awarded the trophy as a result of the unfinished game. The La Tondeña franchise was fined P550,000 for the action, the biggest on-court fine in league history.

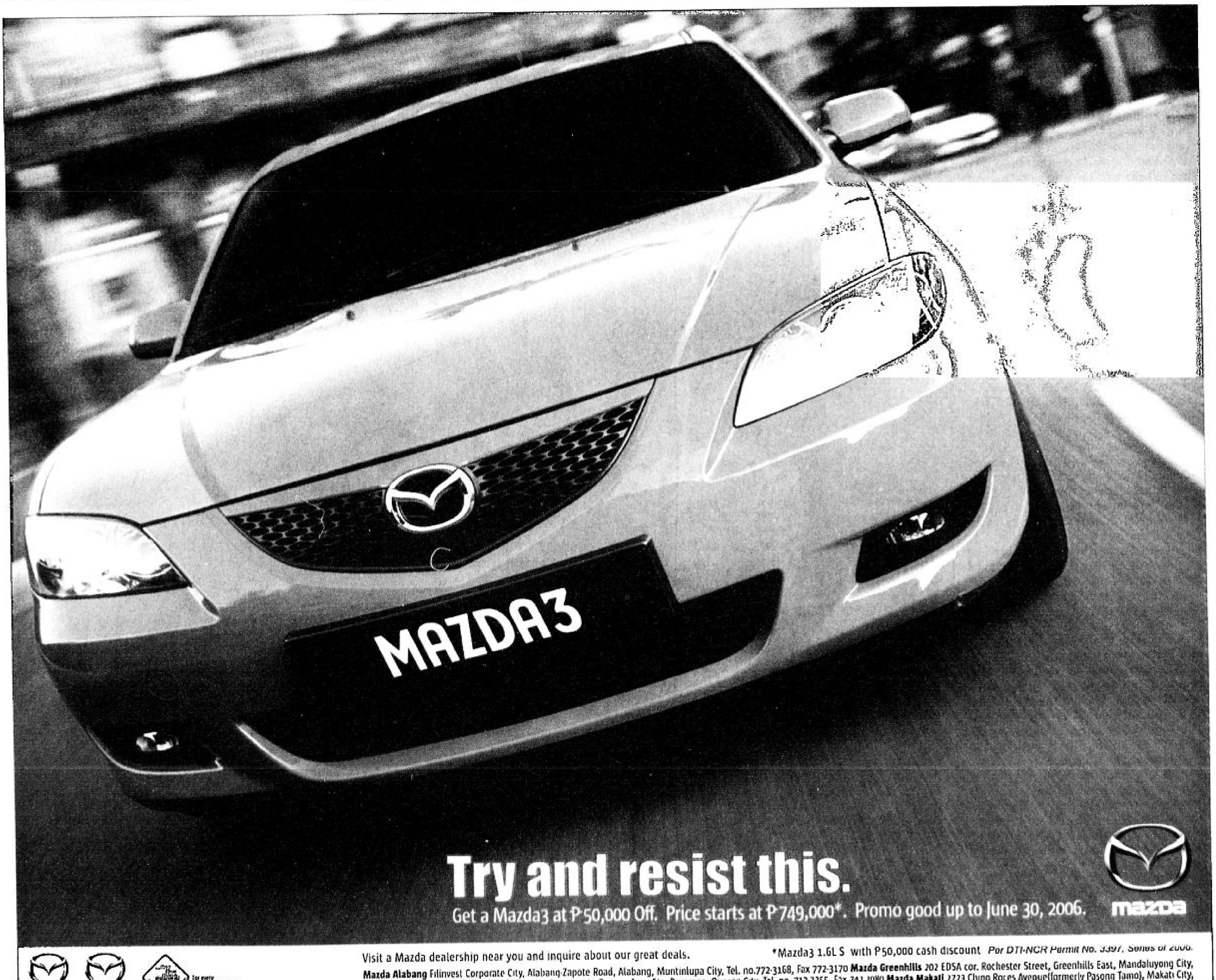
"While the PBA shares the common desire of all member teams to

PBA/ A27

VAN HEUSEN
MIAMI • SAN FRANCISCO • LOS ANGELES

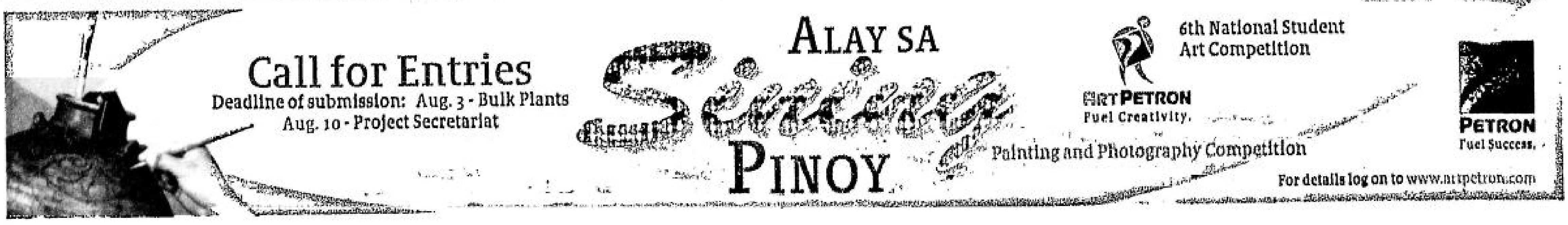
AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION
SALE
FROM JUNE 22 - JULY 09, 2006
Up to 50% OFF ON SELECT ITEMS

BOUTIQUES: Festival Mall • Gateway • Man's World-Glorietta • Shangri-La Plaza • The Shops-Greenhills • SM Baguio • Batangas • Cagayan de Oro • Cebu • Clark • Davao Mall of Asia • Manila • Megamall • Pampanga • San Lazaro • Southmall • Robinsons: Galleria • Manila • DEPT. STORES: Rustan's: Alabang Town Center • Harrison Plaza Tower • SM: Cagayan de Oro • Cebu • Cubao • Iloilo • Davao • Makati • Mall of Asia • Megamall • North Edsa • Robinsons: Bacolod • Festival • Galleria • Manila • Pioneer Also at: Landmark • Market-Market • Metro Gaisano Cebu • OUTLET STORES: SM Sta. Mesa • Robinsons Starmills • Riverbanks
Per DTI-NCR permit #1808. Series of 2006



MAZDA3
Try and resist this.
Get a Mazda3 at ₱50,000 Off. Price starts at ₱749,000*. Promo good up to June 30, 2006.
mazda

mazda Credit mazda Solutions
For every Mazda vehicle sold, P1,000 goes to the road safety program.
www.mazda.com.ph
Visit a Mazda dealership near you and inquire about our great deals.
*Mazda3 1.6L S with ₱50,000 cash discount Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3397, Series of 2006.
Mazda Alabang Filinvest Corporate City, Alabang-Zapote Road, Alabang, Muntinlupa City, Tel. no.772-3168, Fax 772-3170 Mazda Greenhills 202 EDSA cor. Rochester Street, Greenhills East, Mandaluyong City, Tel. no. 722-1102, Fax 722-1138 Mazda Quezon Avenue 721 Quezon Ave., Sto. Domingo, Quezon City, Tel. no. 712-3355, Fax 742 2080 Mazda Makati 2723 Chino Roces Avenue(formerly Pasong Tamo), Makati City, Tel. no. 751-2235 to 36, Fax 751-2237



Call for Entries
Deadline of submission: Aug. 3 - Bulk Plants
Aug. 10 - Project Secretariat
ALAY SA Sining PINOY
Painting and Photography Competition
6th National Student Art Competition
ARTPETRON Fuel Creativity.
PETRON Fuel Success.
For details log on to www.artpetron.com

Larios' twin chances reduced to one

BARE EYE

Recah Trinidad

(REMOTE: Manny Pacquiao was pissed off, the exact words used by Nick Giongco of the Bulletin, upon learning yesterday that reporters were still in danger of being dumped into the far-off upper level section for their job to cover the July 2 blockbuster at the Big Dome. While it's been a necessity for sportswriters to be clinically close to live action, the call of the day has been for binoculars. Which raises the suspicion that the main man in charge of media seat assignments, a quacking, uptight, crop-headed former reporter, has entered into the business of selling powerful bifocals.)

* * *

BEFORE MEXICO'S OSCAR LARIOS could bare his taut torso and step into the ring on Monday, there were still two chances he could upset Manny Pacquiao and fully restore gladness about boxing in his country.

That chance has been reduced to one, only one.

The danger of Larios spearing Pacquiao with a chisel-sharp right straight to the chin, for a possible stoppage in the first half of the fight, has been greatly diminished.

At least, that was how it appeared after the public baring of the worth and might of both fighters for their July 2 Mano a Mano at the Araneta Coliseum.

Larios had suspiciously refused to spar in public in the press preview that was meant to allow a peep into the fighter's arsenal.

He could be hiding something, or he had nothing really dangerous to show.

* * *

But that's beside the point.

All Pacquiao had to do was routine gym work—spar, punch the mitts, shadow-box—to send the message it would be Larios who would be in great danger of crashing against the wall come Sunday noon at the Big Dome.

Pacquiao, in the process, displayed how it would be impossible to tag him with a clean shot to the chin, the sort that had floored Pacman at least three times before he could assume full stardom.

The other day, Larios handlers were overheard as saying they would exploit a secret Pacquiao weakness. It's odd, but the Mexicans referred to a looseness spotted during Pacquiao's fight against Juan Manuel Marquez.

* * *

Let's see. Pacquiao fought Marquez, whom he floored three times in the first round en route to a controversial draw, in May 2004 yet.

Larios handlers were clearly deluding themselves if they believed those old chinks in the Pacquiao armor would resurface inside the ring on Sunday.

If he hopes to frustrate the whole Filipino nation, Larios should work out a fight plan against the Pacquiao that had shamed and stopped his countryman, Erik Morales, earlier this year.

Sorry to inform the Larios camp, but they should prepare for a fully transformed warrior.

Pacquiao has hence metamorphosed into a complete fighter, who has shunned the old balled-up style that had made him an easy prey to sharp counterpunchers, like Marquez and Morales.

* * *

Of course, there's one last chance for Larios to trip Pacquiao.

This one won't be easy, but Larios could try his desperate best to survive expected early bombardment.

Larios did not look as though he had the required balance and solid rib railing for the tough job of pushing the fight close to the distance.

But if he succeeds in, say, staying on his feet in one piece until the seventh or eighth round, things could start to tilt in his favor.

Yes, Pacquiao, left with a shortened preparation period, could start losing steam by this time.

* * *

Pacquiao is, indeed, reporting to the fight like a multigeared, perfectly primed-up race machine.

But, based on unavoidable limitations, it's an engine that could prove perfect only for dashes to a quick finish.

This should not be told at all, but conditioning coach Justine Fortune had confided to one media man back at Wild Card (in Hollywood) that Pacquiao's cardiovascular condition was only 80 percent fine when he left for Manila for the Larios fight.

Pacquiao, strong and sharp, cannot be expected to show up with a full tank on Sunday.

Larios should take it from there—if he has not crashed into the tragic dead-end yet.

Puncher's gloves for Pacq

By Marc Anthony Reyes and Salven L. Lagumbay

IT WAS BUSINESS AS USUAL AT THE PACQUIAO camp yesterday.

On top of Manny Pacquiao's checklist: Sharpening his right hook, working on body combinations and getting his favorite Cleto Reyes gloves.

The Filipino boxing hero's mentor, Freddie Roach, gave this information before shutting the door of the Abap Gym beneath thick acacia trees at the Rizal Memorial Sports Complex.

For two hours, Pacquiao worked and sweated it out away from prying eyes as he geared up for his WBC International super-featherweight title showdown against Mexican Oscar Larios on Sunday at the Araneta Coliseum.

"We are working a little bit on body combinations," said Roach. "Just a little work today. Trying to slow down a few days leading to the fight. But you know Manny, he never slows down."

Pacquiao actually worked double time building up his stamina by running along Manila Baywalk at the crack of dawn yesterday.

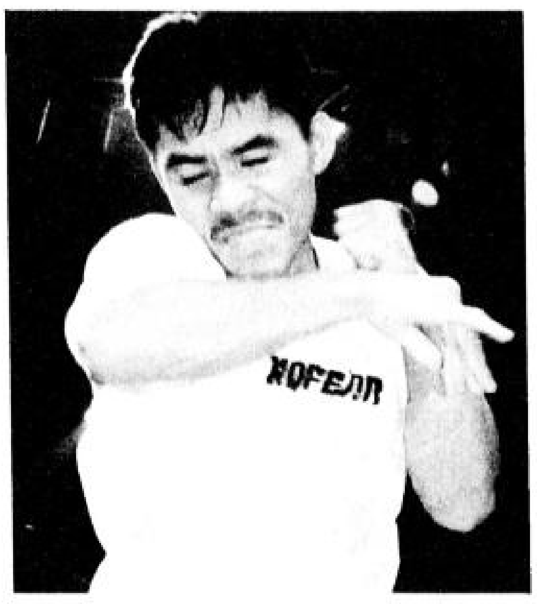
Filipino trainer Buboy Fernandez, on the other hand, bared that Roach and Pacquiao's manager, Shelly Finkel, had ordered the Mexico-made gloves for Mano A Mano.

Cleto Reyes gloves, known as the "punchers' gloves" due to its thin padding, was the same brand used by Pacquiao in his monumental 10-round knockout of Mexican legend Erik Morales in their rematch in Las Vegas last January.

Over at the Larios camp, the former super bantamweight titlist was nowhere to be found. On Monday, he was seen sweating it out at the gym specifically renovated for him by his sponsor hotel, the Discovery Suites.

The 29-year-old Larios honed up for a couple of hours inside the gym, called the Balance, on the fourth floor of the hotel where he also stayed last April to promote Mano A Mano.

"He didn't have any specific request," said the hotel's director for marketing, Gemma Batoon.



PACQUIAO: No slowing down AUGUST DE LA CRUZ

She said that the La
a three-bedroom su
The gym, howev
for Larios to practic
can also didn't sho
out at the nearby El
At any rate, pun
collect his retireme
Larios yielded
Vazquez via techni
His shift to 130-lb c
his ability to absorb
Meanwhile, gun
again be Pacquiao's
garded as Pacquiao
a 3-1-1 win-loss-dr
in which he hoisted
Italy's Mauro Bet
Council Internation
day's bout, is schec
Friday. He will also
in on Saturday at th

Governme
Cigarette smoking is da

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

uiao

ios entourage was housed in te, one of the hotel's finest.
r, didn't have a boxing ring his rope moves. The Mexi- up for his scheduled work- rde Gym yesterday.

lits believe that Larios will t pay in the July 2 clash.

he 122-lb title to Israel al knockout last December. ass is likely to take its toll on Pacquiao's power punches.

enthusiast Cris Aquino will flag-bearer on fight day. Re- lucky charm, Aquino holds w record on Pacquiao fights he RP colors.

i, chair of the World Boxing l who will co-supervise Sun- uled to arrive in Manila on supervise the official weigh- Discovery Suites.

Ekwe-Espinas matchup spices up Lions-Dolphins encounter today

GAMES TODAY
(*Ninoy Aquino Stadium*)
2 p.m.—San Sebastian vs Mapua (Srs)
4 p.m.—San Beda vs PCU (Srs)
6 p.m.—San Beda vs PCU (Jrs)

NIGERIAN STUDENT SAMUEL EKwe struts his wares today as San Beda takes on Philippine Christian University, even as Mapua seeks its second straight win in the NCAA basketball tourney at the Ninoy Aquino Stadium.

The 6-foot-9 Ekwe was sparingly used in the Red Lions' 81-51 crushing of the Jose Rizal Heavy Bombers last Saturday after incurring two fouls in the first quarter. But he still put in 13 points, punctuated by three slam dunks.

The burly Ekwe will be up against Gabby Espinas, the Dolphin who happens to play like an import himself, in the second game of a triple bill at 4 p.m.

Espinas, the 6-foot-4 Rookie of the Year and Most Valuable Player in 2004, is raring to redeem himself after a miserable performance on opening day, when he only scored nine points in the Dolphins' 42-47 loss to Mapua.

"Whoever coaches a team which plays like that will surely get hypertension," said PCU coach Joel Dualan, the replacement for Junel Baculi who resigned due to high blood pressure.

Mapua plays San Sebastian at 2 p.m. with the Stags still smarting from a 67-73 loss to Perpetual last Saturday.

Meanwhile, Indonesian student Ferdinand *(single name—Ed)* combined with forward Martin Reyes as La Salle Green Hills overpowered Letran, 79-69, in the nightcap of first-day junior play Monday at the same venue.

Ferdinand had 23 points, 12 rebounds, four blocks and two steals, and Reyes contributed 16 points, 11 rebounds and two steals for the Greenies.

The Greenies touched off the rout by limiting the Squires to just nine points in the first quarter. *Marc Anthony Reyes*

The scores (Jrs)

LSGH 79—Ferdinand 23, Reyes 16, Crespo 11, Sia 7, Liwag 6, De Guzman 5, Musngi 4, Dela Paz 2, Villanueva 2, Bienvenida 2, Guiao 1, Raganas 0, Yulo 0, Carbonilla 0, Quebral 0.

LETRAN 69—San Jose 18, Rosales 17, Wong 13, Alas, Kris 11, Alas Kev 10, Munsayac 0, Ruiz 0, Bagsit 0, Cruz 0, Gonzalez 0, Javier 0.

Quarters: 22-9, 39-32, 62-51, 79-69

PBA levies P500,000 fine on Red Bull

From page A25

continually look for ways to improve the conduct of its games, the PBA shall never condone and tolerate as reasonable the act of walking out of the game, whether consummated or aborted," said Eala.

After Cyrus Baguio was called for a foul on Dondon Hontiveros, Guiao called for a timeout and ordered the entire team to troop to the dugout, with 2:06 left in the second quarter.

The Bulls came out five minutes later and were slapped a pair of technicals for delaying the game.

They will return to the court today carrying more than just the emotional baggage wrought by the controversy. Red Bull also faces a San Miguel Beer five that feels it has gained momentum.

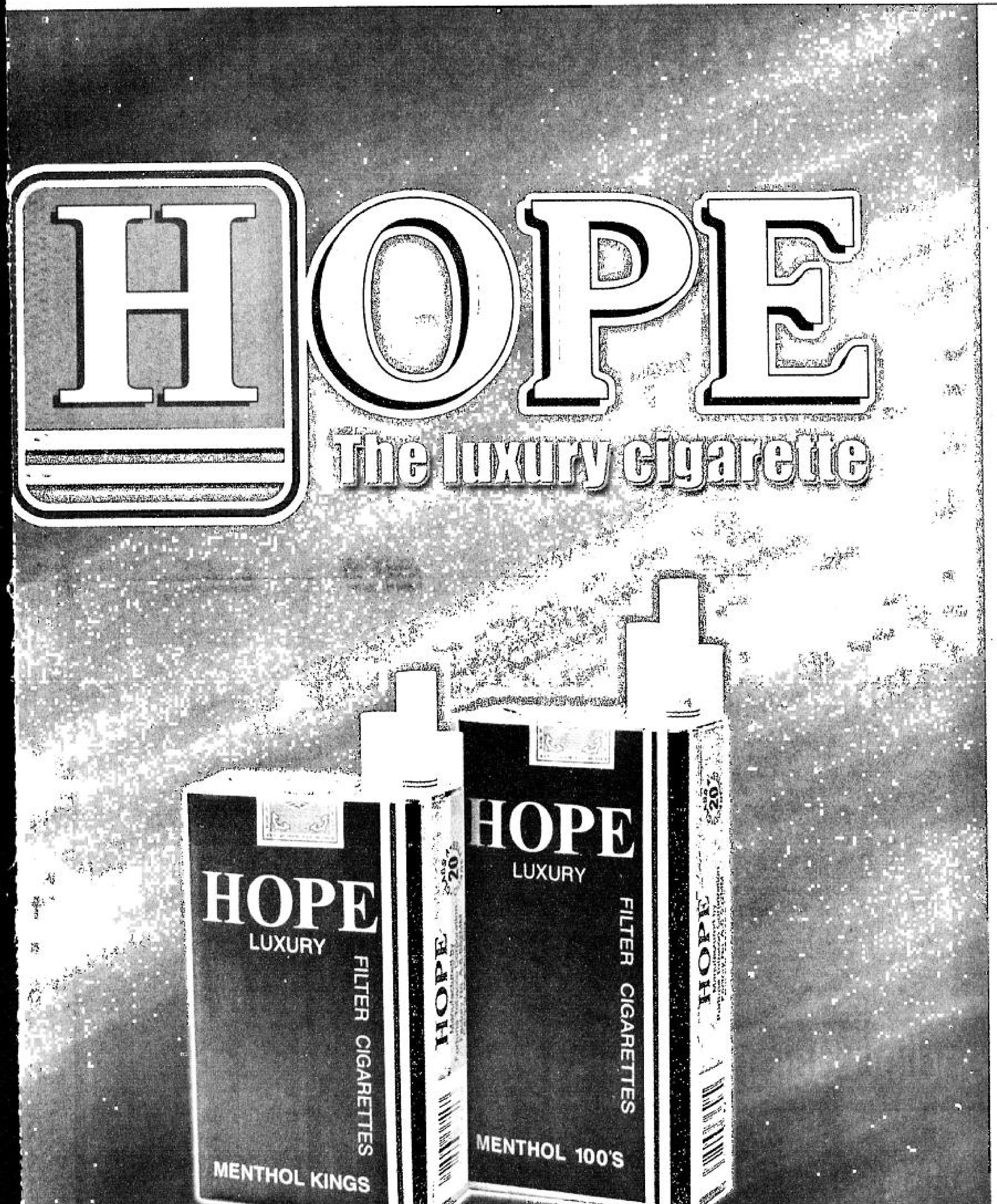
"It's going to be a battle but I think we can carry over the (Game 4) momentum to the next game," said SMB coach Jong Uichico.

Alaska coach Tim Cone, meanwhile, is busy trying to anticipate what the Giants will try to do to stave off elimination.

"They'll pretty much go back to where they are successful," Cone said. "Go for a big lineup than small, dominate the boards, minimize our possessions and keep the score low."

The Giants have an 8-1 record this conference when limiting opponents to 80 points or less in a game and are 5-5 when opponents score more than 80. When opponents score less than 90 points, the Giants so far have a 12-2 record.

"They'll (Giants) have to play three back-to-the-wall games and it's tough. Not impossible but very tough," said Cone.


HOPE
The luxury cigarette
HOPE LUXURY FILTER CIGARETTES MENTHOL KINGS
HOPE LUXURY FILTER CIGARETTES MENTHOL 100'S
Enjoy that great Hope freshness.

nt Warning:
ngerous to your health.

3-way race for Asian F3 team crown

WHILE FILIPINO RACING STAR TYSON SY IS comfortably ahead in the chase for the overall driver's championship, three squads are locked in a tight race for the team title as the Asian Formula Three Series gears up for the next three rounds at the Zhuhai International Circuit in Guangdong, China.

JA Motorsport, the team bannered by Britons Dillon Battistini and James Winslow, shows the way in the race for the top plum with 94 points, with Sy's Speedtech Asia just three points behind.

Aran Racing of Ireland, featuring Ali Jackson and Indon Moreno Soeprapto, is running third with 89 points.

"The race for the team championship is fast heating up," said AF3 Corp. chair Ed Peña. "We expect this race to go down the wire, all the way to the final rounds in Batangas."

The 18-year-old Sy leads the driver's race with 87 points anchored on a sweep of the first three races at the Batangas Racing Circuit last May.

Battistini, 29, is running second with 56, while another 18-year-old Filipino star, Dado Peña, and Jackson, 17, share third place with 52 points each. Winslow, who edged Sy by a point for third place overall last year, is fifth with 42 points.

Race enthusiasts can log on to www.asianf3.net and www.pldtmypad.net for updates on the driver's and team championships.

Rounds 7 to 9 of the series will be held in Guangdong on July 15-16, along with Round 6 that was called off due to heavy rains at the Zhuhai circuit last June 18.

Peña, 18, of Team Goddard, scored a breakthrough win in Round 5 and then settled for fourth in the next race, taking it easy in the blinding rain that bedeviled the field.

Sy finished second in Round 5 and salvaged third in the next round after figuring in a death-defying crash that put his car, and that of teammate Gaby dela Merced, out of commission.

Soeprapto, last year's Promotions class winner, is running sixth in the driver's championship with 34 points, followed by Irishman John O'Hara of Aran Racing (23), Bagoes Hermanto of R&W Team Indonesia Joson F3 (17), Filipino Pepon Marave of Shell Helix Kinetic PCSO (11) and Cheong Loumeng of Team Goddard (9).

SPORTSWATCH

Pacquiao eyes cocker title

MANNY PACQUIAO, WHO IS ALSO INTO SERIOUS gamefowl breeding, guns for the Cocker of the Year title tonight in the PCAP Championship 8-cock derby at the Makati Coliseum. After Monday's eliminations, Pacquiao's Super Pacman entry led with 39.5 points. The winner will be known in tonight's 4-cock finals. Pacquiao, who also bagged the NCA 8-Cock International Derby last June 1, stands to receive P2 million from WTJ Sports and Amusement Corp. and B-Meg Derby Ace. Close behind with 39 points are Richard Bates and Col. Nicetas Katigbak.

Super 5-cock set Friday

AN EXPLOSIVE SHOWDOWN AMONG THE COUNtry's finest cockers and breeders takes center stage at the Pasay City Cockpit this Friday via the Super Bigtime 5-Cock Derby sponsored by Sagupaan Complexor 3000. The father-and-son pair of Jet and Joel Fernando, who enjoys the support of big groups like the National Cockers Association (NCA), Gentlemen Cockers Association of the Philippines (GCAP), Pinoy Cockers Association of the Philippines (PCAP) and Pasay Cockpit Cockers Association (PCCA), will host the event. The first of more than 90 fights begins at 4 p.m. Entries must be submitted tomorrow. For inquiries, call 843-1890, 843-1746 or 816-6750.

RACING TIPS

BY TOP CHOICE

Race 1—(Qrt/Tri)—Empire Lady (6), Royal Rose (5), Playing Cool (1), Collective Dreams
Race 2—(Penta/Qrt-/Tri)—Blue Iris (2), El Cid (3), Lady BeGold (9), Kalashnikov (8), Magiliw (6)
Race 3—(Qrt/Tri)—Scarab (2), Classic Royale (7), Western Legend (1), Truly Impressive (3)
Race 4—(Penta/Qrt/Tri)—West N Wild (3), Miss Bobon (4), Pirouette (8), Yoshiwara (9), First Of All (11)
Race 5—(Qrt/Tri)—Tiger Rally/Friendly Venture (1), Bunker Buster (5), Dona Nena (5), Native Prince (3)
Race 6—(Penta/Qrt/Tri)—Full of Fury (1), Sunline (4), Ali Ali Ali (2), Uncle Buck (9), Reporter (7)
race 7—(Penta/Qrt/Tri)—Well Noted (7), Gigi's Gold (8), Dondon's Entry (5), My Sheikh (1), Lady Tycoon (3)
Race 8—(Super 6/Qrt/Tri)—Speed Bullet (12), Top of D'Line (3), Paminsanminsan (1), Totoo'to (10), Espirikitik (5), Irish Connection (7)

uiao

ios entourage was housed in
te, one of the hotel's finest.
r, didn't have a boxing ring
his rope moves. The Mexi-
up for his scheduled work-
rde Gym yesterday.
dits believe that Larios will
t pay in the July 2 clash.
he 122-lb title to Israel
al knockout last December.
ass is likely to take its toll on
Pacquiao's power punches.
enthusiast Cris Aquino will
flag-bearer on fight day. Re-
lucky charm, Aquino holds
w record on Pacquiao fights
he RP colors.
i, chair of the World Boxing
l who will co-supervise Sun-
uled to arrive in Manila on
supervise the official weigh-
Discovery Suites.

Ekwe-Espinas matchup spices up Lions-Dolphins encounter today

GAMES TODAY
(*Ninoy Aquino Stadium*)
2 p.m.—San Sebastian vs Mapua (Srs)
4 p.m.—San Beda vs PCU (Srs)
6 p.m.—San Beda vs PCU (Jrs)

NIGERIAN STUDENT SAMUEL EKwe struts his wares today as San Beda takes on Philippine Christian University, even as Mapua seeks its second straight win in the NCAA basketball tourney at the Ninoy Aquino Stadium.

The 6-foot-9 Ekwe was sparingly used in the Red Lions' 81-51 crushing of the Jose Rizal Heavy Bombers last Saturday after incurring two fouls in the first quarter. But he still put in 13 points, punctuated by three slam dunks.

The burly Ekwe will be up against Gabby Espinas, the Dolphin who happens to play like an import himself, in the second game of a triple bill at 4 p.m.

Espinas, the 6-foot-4 Rookie of the Year and Most Valuable Player in 2004, is raring to redeem himself after a miserable performance on opening day, when he only scored nine points in the Dolphins' 42-47 loss to Mapua.

"Whoever coaches a team which plays like that will surely get hypertension," said PCU coach Joel Dualan, the replacement for Junel Baculi who resigned due to high blood pressure.

Mapua plays San Sebastian at 2 p.m. with the Stags still smarting from a 67-73 loss to Perpetual last Saturday.

Meanwhile, Indonesian student Ferdinand *(single name—Ed)* combined with forward Martin Reyes as La Salle Green Hills overpowered Letran, 79-69, in the nightcap of first-day junior play Monday at the same venue.

Ferdinand had 23 points, 12 rebounds, four blocks and two steals, and Reyes contributed 16 points, 11 rebounds and two steals for the Greenies.

The Greenies touched off the rout by limiting the Squires to just nine points in the first quarter. *Marc Anthony Reyes*

The scores (Jrs)

LSGH 79—Ferdinand 23, Reyes 16, Crespo 11, Sia 7, Liwag 6, De Guzman 5, Musngi 4, Dela Paz 2, Villanueva 2, Bienvenida 2, Guiao 1, Raganas 0, Yulo 0, Carbonilla 0, Quebral 0.

LETRAN 69—San Jose 18, Rosales 17, Wong 13, Alas, Kris 11, Alas Kev 10, Munsayac 0, Ruiz 0, Bagsit 0, Cruz 0, Gonzalez 0, Javier 0.

Quarters: 22-9, 39-32, 62-51, 79-69

PBA levies P500,000 fine on Red Bull

From page A25

continually look for ways to improve the conduct of its games, the PBA shall never condone and tolerate as reasonable the act of walking out of the game, whether consummated or aborted," said Eala.

After Cyrus Baguio was called for a foul on Dondon Hontiveros, Guiao called for a timeout and ordered the entire team to troop to the dugout, with 2:06 left in the second quarter.

The Bulls came out five minutes later and were slapped a pair of technicals for delaying the game.

They will return to the court today carrying more than just the emotional baggage wrought by the controversy. Red Bull also faces a San Miguel Beer five that feels it has gained momentum.

"It's going to be a battle but I think we can carry over the (Game 4) momentum to the next game," said SMB coach Jong Uichico.

Alaska coach Tim Cone, meanwhile, is busy trying to anticipate what the Giants will try to do to stave off elimination.

"They'll pretty much go back to where they are successful," Cone said. "Go for a big lineup than small, dominate the boards, minimize our possessions and keep the score low."

The Giants have an 8-1 record this conference when limiting opponents to 80 points or less in a game and are 5-5 when opponents score more than 80. When opponents score less than 90 points, the Giants so far have a 12-2 record.

"They'll (Giants) have to play three back-to-the-wall games and it's tough. Not impossible but very tough," said Cone.

3-way race for Asian F3 team crown

WHILE FILIPINO RACING STAR TYSON SY IS comfortably ahead in the chase for the overall driver's championship, three squads are locked in a tight race for the team title as the Asian Formula Three Series gears up for the next three rounds at the Zhuhai International Circuit in Guangdong, China.

JA Motorsport, the team bannered by Britons Dillon Battistini and James Winslow, shows the way in the race for the top plum with 94 points, with Sy's Speedtech Asia just three points behind.

Aran Racing of Ireland, featuring Ali Jackson and Indon Moreno Soeprapto, is running third with 89 points.

"The race for the team championship is fast heating up," said AF3 Corp. chair Ed Peña. "We expect this race to go down the wire, all the way to the final rounds in Batangas."

The 18-year-old Sy leads the driver's race with 87 points anchored on a sweep of the first three races at the Batangas Racing Circuit last May.

Battistini, 29, is running second with 56, while another 18-year-old Filipino star, Dado Peña, and Jackson, 17, share third place with 52 points each. Winslow, who edged Sy by a point for third place overall last year, is fifth with 42 points.

Race enthusiasts can log on to www.asianf3.net and www.pldtmypad.net for updates on the driver's and team championships.

Rounds 7 to 9 of the series will be held in Guangdong on July 15-16, along with Round 6 that was called off due to heavy rains at the Zhuhai circuit last June 18.

Peña, 18, of Team Goddard, scored a breakthrough win in Round 5 and then settled for fourth in the next race, taking it easy in the blinding rain that bedeviled the field.

Sy finished second in Round 5 and salvaged third in the next round after figuring in a death-defying crash that put his car, and that of teammate Gaby dela Merced, out of commission.

Soeprapto, last year's Promotions class winner, is running sixth in the driver's championship with 34 points, followed by Irishman John O'Hara of Aran Racing (23), Bagoes Hermanto of R&W Team Indonesia Joson F3 (17), Filipino Pepon Marave of Shell Helix Kinetic PCSO (11) and Cheong Loumeng of Team Goddard (9).

SPORTSWATCH

Pacquiao eyes cocker title

MANNY PACQUIAO, WHO IS ALSO INTO SERIOUS gamefowl breeding, guns for the Cocker of the Year title tonight in the PCAP Championship 8-cock derby at the Makati Coliseum. After Monday's eliminations, Pacquiao's Super Pacman entry led with 39.5 points. The winner will be known in tonight's 4-cock finals. Pacquiao, who also bagged the NCA 8-Cock International Derby last June 1, stands to receive P2 million from WTJ Sports and Amusement Corp. and B-Meg Derby Ace. Close behind with 39 points are Richard Bates and Col. Nicetas Katigbak.

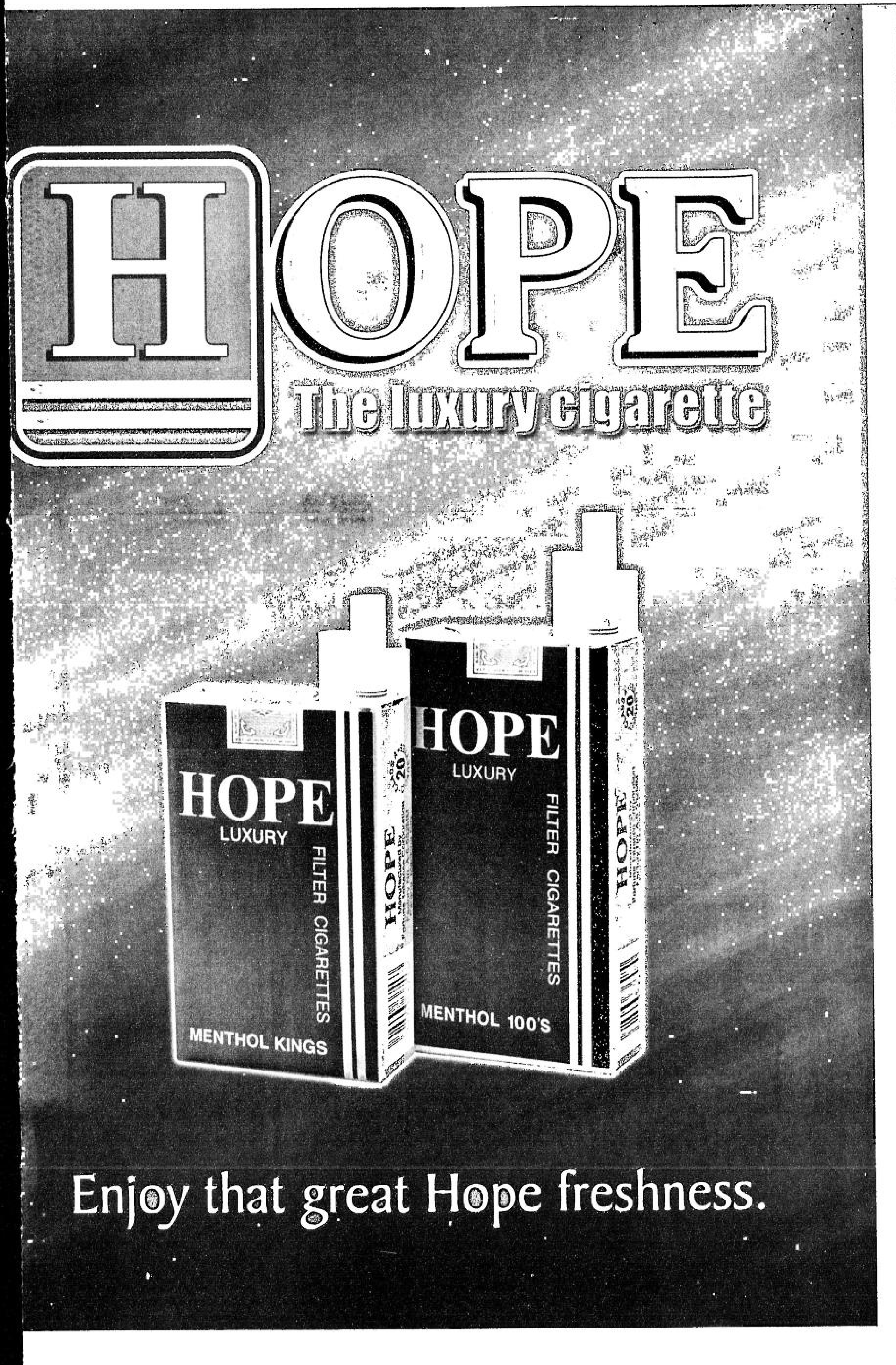
Super 5-cock set Friday

AN EXPLOSIVE SHOWDOWN AMONG THE COUNtry's finest cockers and breeders takes center stage at the Pasay City Cockpit this Friday via the Super Bigtime 5-Cock Derby sponsored by Sagupaan Complexor 3000. The father-and-son pair of Jet and Joel Fernando, who enjoys the support of big groups like the National Cockers Association (NCA), Gentlemen Cockers Association of the Philippines (GCAP), Pinoy Cockers Association of the Philippines (PCAP) and Pasay Cockpit Cockers Association (PCCA), will host the event. The first of more than 90 fights begins at 4 p.m. Entries must be submitted tomorrow. For inquiries, call 843-1890, 843-1746 or 816-6750.

RACING TIPS

BY TOP CHOICE

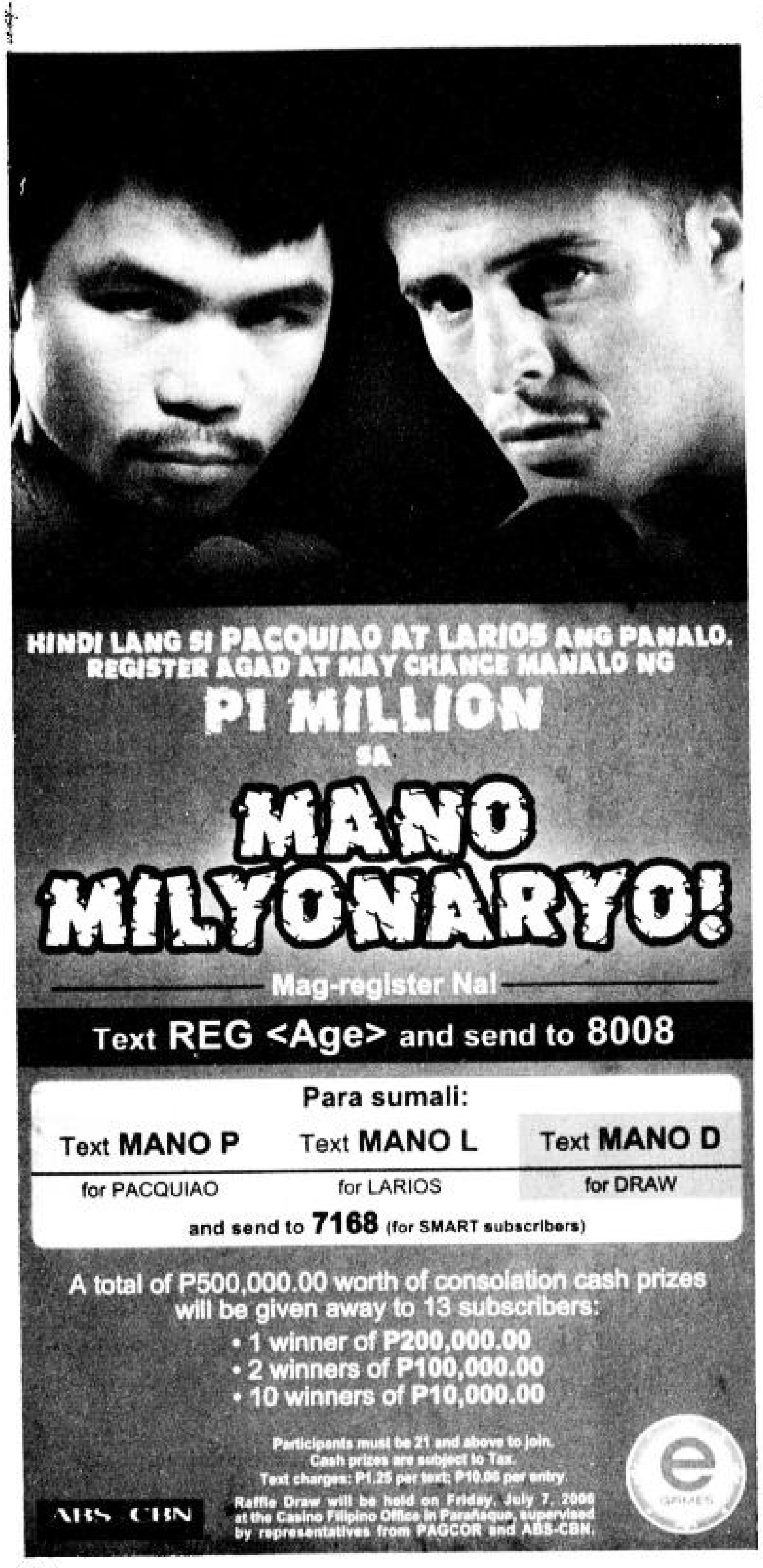
Race 1—(Qrt/Tri)—Empire Lady (6), Royal Rose (5), Playing Cool (1), Collective Dreams
Race 2—(Penta/Qrt-/Tri)—Blue Iris (2), El Cid (3), Lady BeGold (9), Kalashnikov (8), Magiliw (6)
Race 3—(Qrt/Tri)—Scarab (2), Classic Royale (7), Western Legend (1), Truly Impressive (3)
Race 4—(Penta/Qrt/Tri)—West N Wild (3), Miss Bobon (4), Pirouette (8), Yoshiwara (9), First Of All (11)
Race 5—(Qrt/Tri)—Tiger Raffy/Friendly Venture (1), Bunker Buster (5), Dona Nene (5), Native Prince (3)
Race 6—(Penta/Qrt/Tri)—Full of Fury (1), Sunline (4), Ali Ali Ali (2), Uncle Buck (9), Reporter (7)
race 7—(Penta/Qrt/Tri)—Well Noted (7), Cigi's Gold (8), Dondon's Entry (5), My Sheikh (1), Lady Tycoon (3)
Race 8—(Super 6/Qrt/Tri)—Speed Bullet (12), Top of D'Line (3), Paminsanminsan (1), Totoo'to (10), Espirikitik (5), Irish Connection (7)


HOPE
The luxury cigarette
Enjoy that great Hope freshness.
nt Warning:
ngerous to your health.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

SPORTS

FIFA WORLD CUP ON SPORTSPLUS
7 a.m.— Italy vs. Australia (replay @ 11 p.m.)
4 p.m. —Switzerland vs. Ukraine (replay tomorrow @ 2 a.m.)


HINDI LANG SI PACQUIAO AT LARIOS ANG PANALO.
REGISTER AGAD AT MAY CHANCE MANALO NG
P1 MILLION
SA
MANO MILYONARYO!
Mag-register Na!
Text REG <Age> and send to 8008
Para sumali:
Text MANO P for PACQUIAO
Text MANO L for LARIOS
Text MANO D for DRAW
and send to 7168 (for SMART subscribers)
A total of P500,000.00 worth of consolation cash prizes will be given away to 13 subscribers:
• 1 winner of P200,000.00
• 2 winners of P100,000.00
• 10 winners of P10,000.00
Participants must be 21 and above to join.
Cash prizes are subject to Tax.
Text charges: P1.25 per text; P10.00 per entry.
Raffle Draw will be held on Friday, July 7, 2006 at the Casino Filipino Office in Parañaque, supervised by representatives from PAGCOR and ABS-CBN.
ABS-CBN

MICROVAN
(02) 984-02
MEGA SALE!
on June 30, 2006 · STARTS AT 8:30A.M. SHARP

WORLD CUP

Ukraine, Italy set q'final showdown

UKRAINE players celebrate on the field after their 3-0 penalty kick shootout win over Switzerland. The Ukranians will face the Italians, who advanced by nipping Australia with a penalty by Francisco Totti (below), in the last eight.

BERLIN—ITALY NEEDED A PENALTY KICK TO EARN A SPOT in the World Cup quarterfinals. Ukraine needed a shootout.

Francesco Totti scored from the penalty spot in injury time Monday to lead Italy over Australia, 1-0, while Ukraine beat Switzerland, 3-0, in a shootout after a dull 0-0 draw.

Italy will face the Ukrainians, who are playing in the World Cup for the first time, in the last eight on Friday in Hamburg.

Totti, who came off the bench in the 75th minute, took the penalty after Lucas Neill brought down Fabio Grosso with only 12 seconds of injury time left to play.

Italy was reduced to 10 men in the 51st minute when Marco Materazzi was sent off for bringing down Marco Bresciano just outside the area.

Australia dominated possession in Kaiserslautern after Materazzi's red card, but rarely created good scoring opportunities.

Italy goalkeeper Gianluigi Buffon twice saved shots from Scott Chipperfield and, with the Australians in control, Italy coach Marcello Lippi gambled by sending on Totti—who is still regaining fitness after a long-term leg injury.

In the 89th, Australia midfielder Tim Cahill had another chance from Bresciano's corner, but he headed over the crossbar.

In the first half, Italy striker Luca Toni nearly scored four times before the team was reduced to 10 men.

"I was never worried because there was still extra time to play and penalties," Lippi said. "This was a game that really had everything.

"In the first half, we didn't allow even one shot on goal—not even from long range. In the second, we struggled but we gave away very little and then there was this great play by Grosso."

The game appeared to be headed for extra time when Grosso cut in from the left, beat one defender and then went down under a challenge from Neill.

Spanish referee Luis Medina pointed to the spot.

"I saw only one replay and I couldn't really tell if it was a penalty or not," Australia goalkeeper Mark Schwarzer said. "Essentially, we just couldn't score. We are very disappointed."

In Cologne, Oleg Gusev scored the deciding penalty after 120 scoreless minutes.

Andriy Shevchenko took the first penalty for Ukraine but Swiss goalkeeper Pascal Zuberbuehler dived to his right to save.

Artem Milevskiy gave Ukraine the lead by chipping in with the goalkeeper diving, and Serhiy Rebrov added another with an easy goal.

Marco Streller took Switzerland's first penalty, which Oleksander Shovkovsky saved. Tranquillo Barnetta then hit the crossbar and Ricardo Cabanas' shot was saved, setting up Gusev for the winning kick. *AP*

Hingis, rain make Wimbledon return

HINGIS AP

WIMBLEDON, ENGLAND—MARTINA Hingis played at Wimbledon for the first time since 2001, and it was as though she never left. Those crafty strokes. Well-timed net rushes. And rain.

Ah, yes, rain.

Day 1 at the All England Club began with sprinkles that delayed the start of the tournament for an hour. After about 30 minutes of action Monday, time enough for Hingis to win the first set against Olga Savchuk of Ukraine, 6-2, rain returned and halted play for good.

"I don't like Wimbledon," said Hingis' mother and coach, Melanie Molitor. She sighed, motioned toward the sky and added, "The weather."

A drizzle grew to a downpour by mid-afternoon, when organizers began postponing matches. Only 17 of 64 scheduled matches got underway, with zero completed. Because of the backlog, some players originally slated to debut Tuesday—including defending champion Venus Williams and No. 1-seeded Amelie Mauresmo—won't get on court until Wednesday, at the earliest.

Tuesday's forecast calls for afternoon showers.

Rain at Wimbledon hardly is surprising, of course, but southern England has been dealing with a drought that prompted authorities to tell people not to water their gardens.

With thick cloud cover, defending champion Roger Federer was the first player on Centre Court, and what an entrance he made. He strode out wearing a cream-colored blazer. Something with a hood would have been more appropriate.

Bidding for what would be a record 42nd consecutive victory on grass, Federer started against Richard Gasquet of France with an ace. He held serve, then broke Gasquet, who appeared tentative on the slippery grass.

Federer won the set, 6-3, and was about to serve trailing, 2-1, in the second when the rain returned. *AP*

Thinning Hair = Impending Baldness
The Solution:
Hair Density Maximizer
As your hair gets thinner, do you feel your self-esteem sinking lower? Thinning hair makes you look older than you really are and feel less confident. If you are troubled by the diminishing strands of your hair, don't just wallow in self-pity or embarrassment. Do something about it! Svenson's Hair Density Maximizer has been effectively proven to treat thinning hair. It fortifies your hair to restore its healthy condition and ensure thickness.
Regain your hair. Regain your confidence.
Only at Svenson.
Svenson INTERNATIONAL
End Your Hair Loss Misery Today
Call 892-HAIR (4247)
MAKATI 1½/F GT Tower
TOMAS MORATO 3/F CKB Center
BINONDO 11/F Federal Tower Bldg.
ALABANG 4/F Citibank-Frabelle Bldg.
CEBU TEL: 234-0851 7/F Keppel Centre

Yeng: An expression of frustration

IN HUDDLE

Beth Celis

JUST BEFORE I WROTE THIS PIECE YESTERDAY, I sent a text message to Red Bull coach Yeng Guiao, San Miguel Beer coach Jong Uichico and PBA officials supervisor Perry Martinez.

I asked for their comments on last Sunday's officiating. To make sure it got to the recipients, I texted them the message twice.

***

I got a quick response from Yeng and Perry.

Yeng said he was in a meeting at that moment, but promised to call as soon as it was over. I realized that he must be at the PBA Commissioner's office where he and Red Bull team manager/governor Tony Chua were summoned to appear that day.

I was a bit surprised at Perry Martinez's reply though.

"What officiating?" he asked.

I know I didn't need to, but I told him it was the one where Red Bull almost walked out of the game against San Miguel Beer.

I don't know whether or not he recalled the incident or if he was in denial, but I never heard from him again yesterday.

I didn't hear from Jong at all. Obviously, it's a very sensitive issue.

***

Calling barely a few minutes before my deadline, Yeng said he and Tony were asked by PBA commissioner Noli Eala to justify the near-walkout Red Bull had staged last Sunday.

"It wasn't just one call, or two, or three, it wasn't even a game. It was a confluence of events," explained Yeng, who pointed out that the walkout was "an expression of frustration."

"To the PBA fans who have been asking why we did it, I advise them to watch the game on tape and evaluate. *Ang tingin ko* at the time, we were getting a very raw deal and we couldn't do anything about it. If you were in my shoes what would you have done?" Yeng asked.

Yeng expects a verdict from the PBA commissioner either today or tomorrow. He said he is expecting the worst.

***

The Ateneo Blue Eagles didn't have much time for rest and recreation during the last summer vacation. They were too busy preparing for the coming UAAP season, which opens this July.

"We travelled as far as Cebu and Davao to compete in three different tune-up tournaments," Ateneo coach Norman Black said. The tune-up games gave Norman and team manager Paolo Trillo reason to be optimistic.

"This crew is very, very hardworking, the most hardworking batch I've ever handled. They not only play hard, they also study hard," said Norman who launched a long-term, nationwide player recruitment program with Paolo, which the academe can continue even under a different coach.

Meantime, the focus is on the six remaining opponents in the UAAP, especially FEU and the University of the East, who beat the Eagles in the recent Father Martin's Cup.

For Norman, the absence of rival De la Salle in the 2006 UAAP season has no effect whatsoever—positive or negative—in the Blue Eagles' training and preparations.

ENTERTAINMENT

Editor **Emmie G. Velarde**

/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) and 283 (Smart) **or email us at** pr_entertainment@inquirer.com.ph

FRANK CIMATU/PDI NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU

INSIDE

Just married

And just had a lot of *tapuy*, or native rice wine. That's probably why the groom, Javier "Javy" Olives is standing on his head. His bride, kooky in Chucks, is Session Road Band vocalist Hannah Romawac. Story in Rushes, Page A2/3.

Kissing cousins

Industry bigwigs Lily Monteverde of Regal and Wilson Tieng of Solar unwittingly stole the show from birthday celebrant Ruffa Gutierrez on Sunday... just by saying hello. Actually, they said more, but they spoke in a "secret" language later identified as Fookien! Page A2/5.

RUDY ESPERAS

FIRST PERSON

'First row, thank you!'

INQUIRER reporters audition for TV reality talent search

By Edson C. Tandoc Jr.
Metro

JUNJUN, 20, A GRADUATING NURSING student, said he was prepared to quit school if he made it to the finals.

Charlene, 26, a salesperson, had given up a full day's pay even if she only had P20 in her pocket.

Malou, 24, an accounting officer at a supermarket chain, had taken a leave, telling office mates she was applying for another job.

They had a single goal.

For seven hours on Saturday, the three of them—along with about 4,300 other dreamers—waited in the crowded and narrow corridors of SM Manila, suffering the intense noontime heat. They were drenched in sweat, their legs aching. Still, they were raring to flash their sweetest smiles.

It was the first audition day for the "Pinoy Dream Academy" and the next season of "Pinoy Big Brother"—ABS-CBN talent searches.

When finally they stood in front of a lone judge, the dream they shared was shattered in less than 30 seconds.

From the thousands who showed up, only about 100 would go through to the next round.

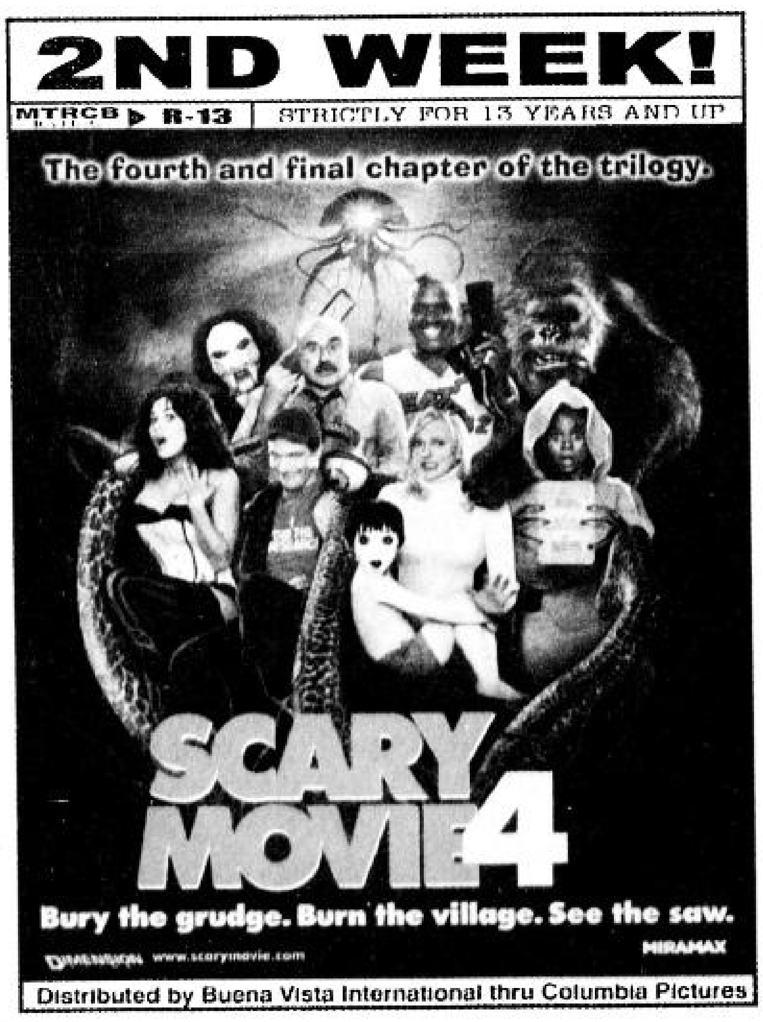
* * *

We were there, too—Margaux, a fellow reporter, and myself—never mind that it was our

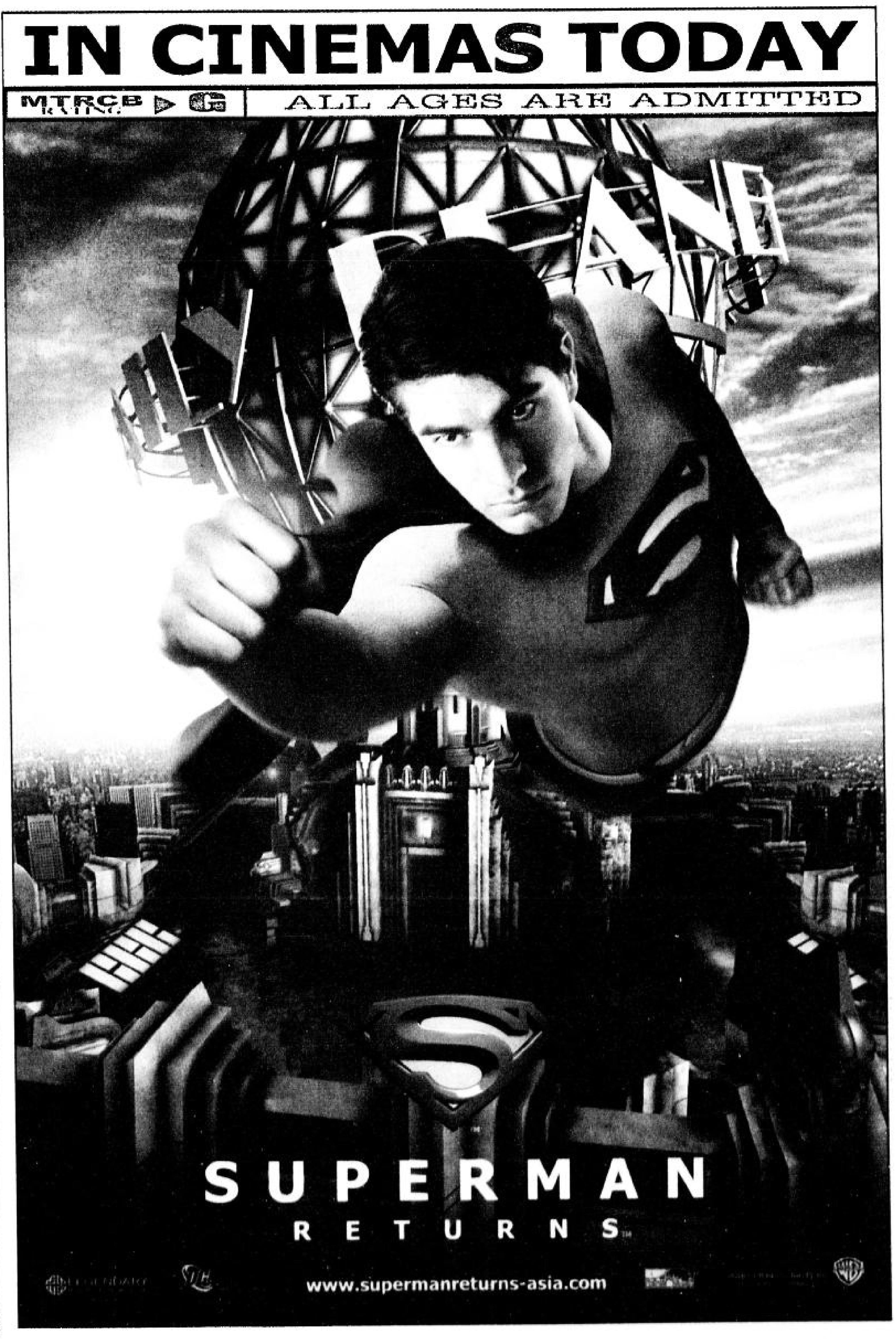
FIRST ROW/ A2-2

MON DAVID
GRAND PRIZE WINNER
1st London International Jazz Competition for vocalists
Jazz and More...
8 JULY 2006 9:00pm Onstage GREENBELT1
featuring
MARK LOPEZ piano
COLBY dela CALZADA bass
KOKO BERMEJO drums
MICHAEL GUEVARRA sax&flute
NOEL SANTIAGO guitar
JOEY QUIRINO keyboards
MARINA TOLENTINO
& IVY MANIQUIS back-up vocals
with the special participation of
ARTI STA. RITA
NICOLE & CARLO
with special guest
BITUIN ESCALANTE
Call TICKETWORLD at 891-9999 or at THIRDLINE at 426-0103, 4265301, 4333332

Dr. Reynaldo David, a prominent cosmetic surgeon and owner of Enhance Cosmetic Surgery and Skin Care Center, celebrated his 50th birthday on June 12, 2006 at Wack-Wack Golf and Country Club. Beside him is his special guest, his celebrity model/ endorser Francine Prieto. Dr. David is admired for his excellence in the field of cosmetic surgery, and has many satisfied patients including celebrities and models. His clinics are located at SM North Edsa Annex Bldg. Basement level and SM Fairview Lower Ground Floor with tel. nos. 920-9205 and 937-6498 respectively.
www.davidcosmeticsurgi-center.com Advt'l



2ND WEEK!
MTRCB RATING R-13 STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS AND UP
The fourth and final chapter of the trilogy.
SCARY MOVIE 4
Bury the grudge. Burn the village. See the saw.
DIMENSION www.scarymovie.com MIRAMAX
Distributed by Buena Vista International thru Columbia Pictures

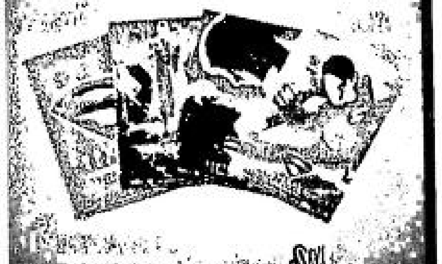


IN CINEMAS TODAY
MTRCB RATING G ALL AGES ARE ADMITTED
SUPERMAN RETURNS
www.supermanreturns-asia.com

SM CINEMA
SHARE A MOVIE WITH A LOVED ONE
movietime
SM DIAL-A-MOVIE 833-9999*
Your life as a movie
BIG MOVIES • BIG STARS • BIG SHOWS • BIG EVENTS
movietime
movietime BIG MOVIE
movietime

SUPERMAN RETURNS
IN CINEMAS JUNE 28
www.supermanreturns-asia.com

Watch
SUPERMAN RETURNS™
TODAY and get an
exclusive limited edition of
SUPERMAN RETURNS™
POSTCARD SET
for every 4 tickets purchased



SM CINEMA
SM MALL OF ASIA CINEMAS
THE PODIUM
OFFICIAL MEDIA PARTNERS
96.3 WRocK
SupeRadio
UNO

Promo valid at The Podium Cinema, SM Mall of Asia Cinemas and at all SM Cinema branches nationwide.

TERMS and CONDITIONS: For single purchase transactions only. Discount for SM Advantage and Banco de Oro Rewards Plus card holders not applicable for this promo. Not valid for block screening reservations. Not in conjuction with other promos.

METRO MANILA

SM MALL OF ASIA
NOW OPEN
SAN MIGUEL Coca-Cola IMAX THEATRE
SUPERMAN RETURNS
12:00 03:00 12:00 AM
PREMIERE CINEMA
SUPERMAN RETURNS
DIRECTOR'S CLUB
SUPERMAN RETURNS
CENTERSTAGE
RESERVED
SUPERMAN RETURNS
THE NUN
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SCARY MOVIE 4
LAKE HOUSE
FAST AND FURIOUS 3

THE PODIUM CINEMA
CINEMA 1
SUPERMAN RETURNS
CINEMA 2
SUPERMAN RETURNS

SM NORTH EDSA
SUPERMAN RETURNS
FAST AND FURIOUS 3
THE NUN
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SCARY MOVIE 4
KAPAG TUMIBOK ANG PUSO
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SUPERMAN RETURNS

SM CITY BICUTAN
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SUPERMAN RETURNS
FAST AND FURIOUS 3
SUPERMAN RETURNS

SM MEGACINEMA
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SCARY MOVIE 4
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SUPERMAN RETURNS
FAST AND FURIOUS 3
SUPERMAN RETURNS
LAKE HOUSE
KAPAG TUMIBOK ANG PUSO
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SUPERMAN RETURNS
THE NUN
PACQUIAO THE MOVIE

SM CITY SOUTHMALL
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SUPERMAN RETURNS
KAPAG TUMIBOK ANG PUSO
FAST AND FURIOUS 3
PACQUIAO THE MOVIE
SCARY MOVIE 4
THE NUN

SM CITY FAIRVIEW
PACQUIAO THE MOVIE
THE NUN
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SCARY MOVIE 4
FAST AND FURIOUS 3
SUPERMAN RETURNS
KAPAG TUMIBOK ANG PUSO
SUPERMAN RETURNS
CARS
LAKE HOUSE
SUPERMAN RETURNS

SM CITY DASMARINAS
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SUPERMAN RETURNS
LAKE HOUSE
SUPERMAN RETURNS

SM CITY STA. MESA
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SUPERMAN RETURNS
FAST AND FURIOUS 3
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SCARY MOVIE 4
LAKE HOUSE
PACQUIAO THE MOVIE
THE NUN
KAPAG TUMIBOK ANG PUSO

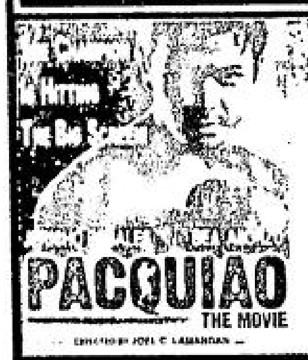
SM CITY MANILA
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SUPERMAN RETURNS
FAST AND FURIOUS 3
PACQUIAO THE MOVIE
LAKE HOUSE
SCARY MOVIE 4
KAPAG TUMIBOK ANG PUSO
THE NUN
GARFIELD 2

SM CITY SAN LAZARO
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SUPERMAN RETURNS
KAPAG TUMIBOK ANG PUSO
SCARY MOVIE 4
FAST AND FURIOUS 3

SM SUPERCENTER VALENZUELA
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SCARY MOVIE 4

SM CITY SUCAT
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SUPERMAN RETURNS
FSUPERMAN RETURNS
THE NUN

movietime
movietime



PACQUIAO THE MOVIE
NOW SHOWING AT SM CINEMAS

SM CITY BAGUIO
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SUPERMAN RETURNS
FAST AND FURIOUS 3

SM CITY MARILAO
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SUPERMAN RETURNS
LAKE HOUSE
SUPERMAN RETURNS

SM CITY BACOOR
SCARY MOVIE 4
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SUPERMAN RETURNS
FAST AND FURIOUS 3
SUPERMAN RETURNS
PACQUIAO THE MOVIE
KAPAG TUMIBOK ANG PUSO
SUPERMAN RETURNS

LUZON

SM CITY BATANGAS
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SUPERMAN RETURNS
THE OMEN
SCARY MOVIE 4

SM CITY LUCENA
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SUPERMAN RETURNS
PACQUIAO THE MOVIE
INSIDE MAN

SM CITY CLARK
NOW OPEN
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SCARY MOVIE 4
KAPAG TUMIBOK ANG PUSO
FAST AND FURIOUS 3

SM CITY PAMPANGA
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SCARY MOVIE 4
FAST AND FURIOUS 3
KAPAG TUMIBOK ANG PUSO
SUPERMAN RETURNS

SM CITY MOLINO
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SUPERMAN RETURNS
KAPAG TUMIBOK ANG PUSO
FAST AND FURIOUS 3

SM CITY STA. ROSA
KAPAG TUMIBOK ANG PUSO
GARFIELD 2
SCARY MOVIE 4
PACQUIAO THE MOVIE

SM CITY [illegible]
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SCARY MOVIE 4
LAKE HOUSE
SUPERMAN RETURNS
PACQUIAO THE MOVIE
FAST AND FURIOUS 3
SUPERMAN RETURN

VISAYAS MINDANAO

SM CITY ILOILO
CARS
SUPERMAN RETURN
SUPERMAN RETURN
PACQUIAO THE MOVIE
SCARY MOVIE 4
SUPERMAN RETURN
RESERVED
SUPERMAN RETURN

SM CITY [illegible]
SUPERMAN RETURN
SUBMERGED
SCARY MOVIE 4
PACQUIAO THE MOVIE
SUPERMAN RETURN
SUPERMAN RETURN

SM CITY [illegible]
SUPERMAN RETURN
SUPERMAN RETURN
SUPERMAN RETURN
THE OMEN

SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE
FOR MORE INFORMATION ON MOVIE LISTING, MTRCB RATING, SCREENING SCHEDULES AND THE LATEST HAPPENINGS AT SM CINEMA

GET YOUR M-PASS CARD NOW!

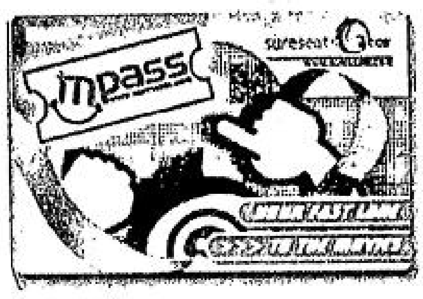
The Multi-Pass or M-Pass - *your fast lane to the movies!*

It is an online prepaid ticketing system that allows you to purchase tickets online in just 3 easy steps!

1 BUY YOUR CREDITS
Purchase your credits at the Greenbelt 3 SureSeats Ticket Counter.

2 LOAD ACCOUNT
Log on to SureSeats.com with your username and password.

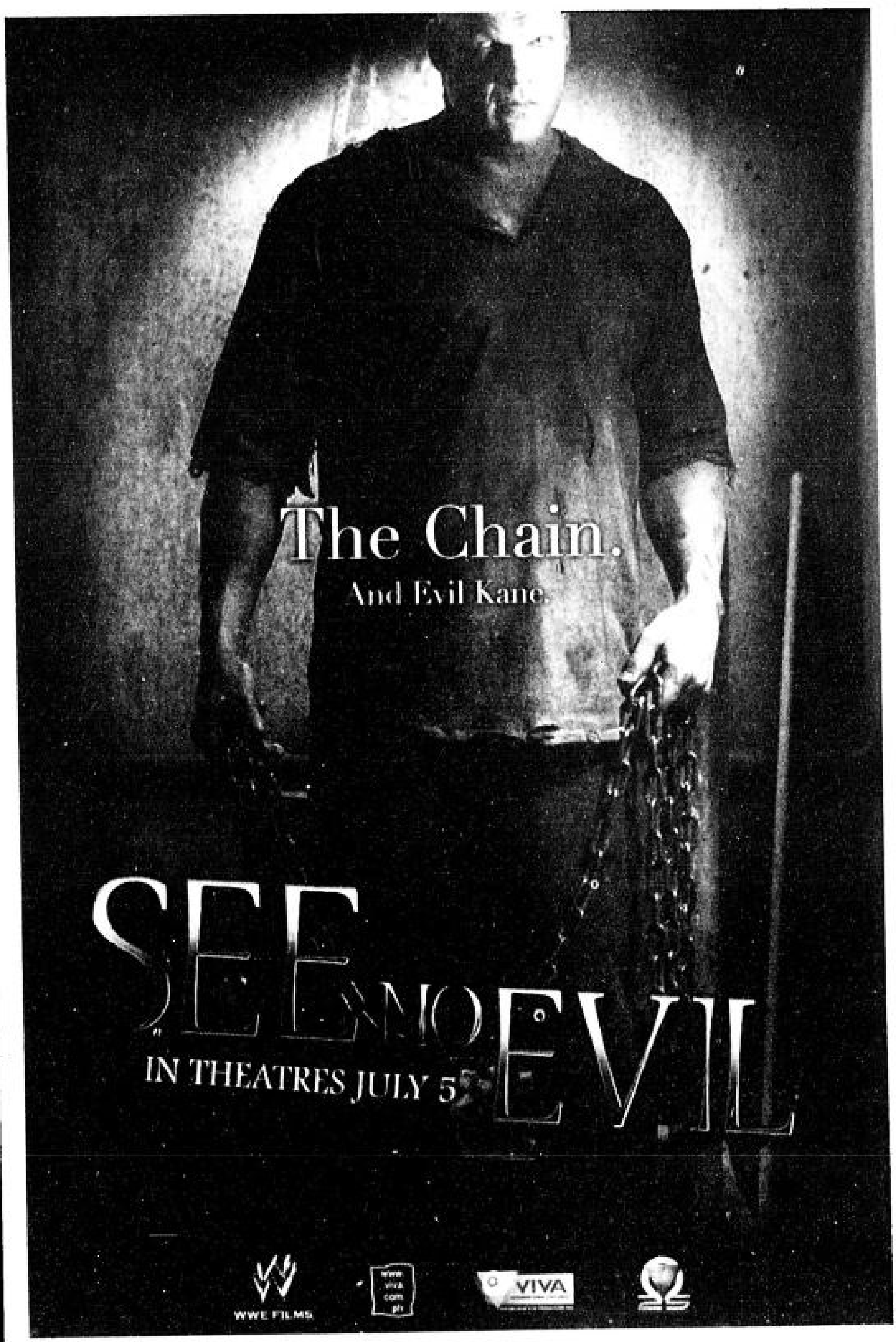
3 WATCH A MOVIE



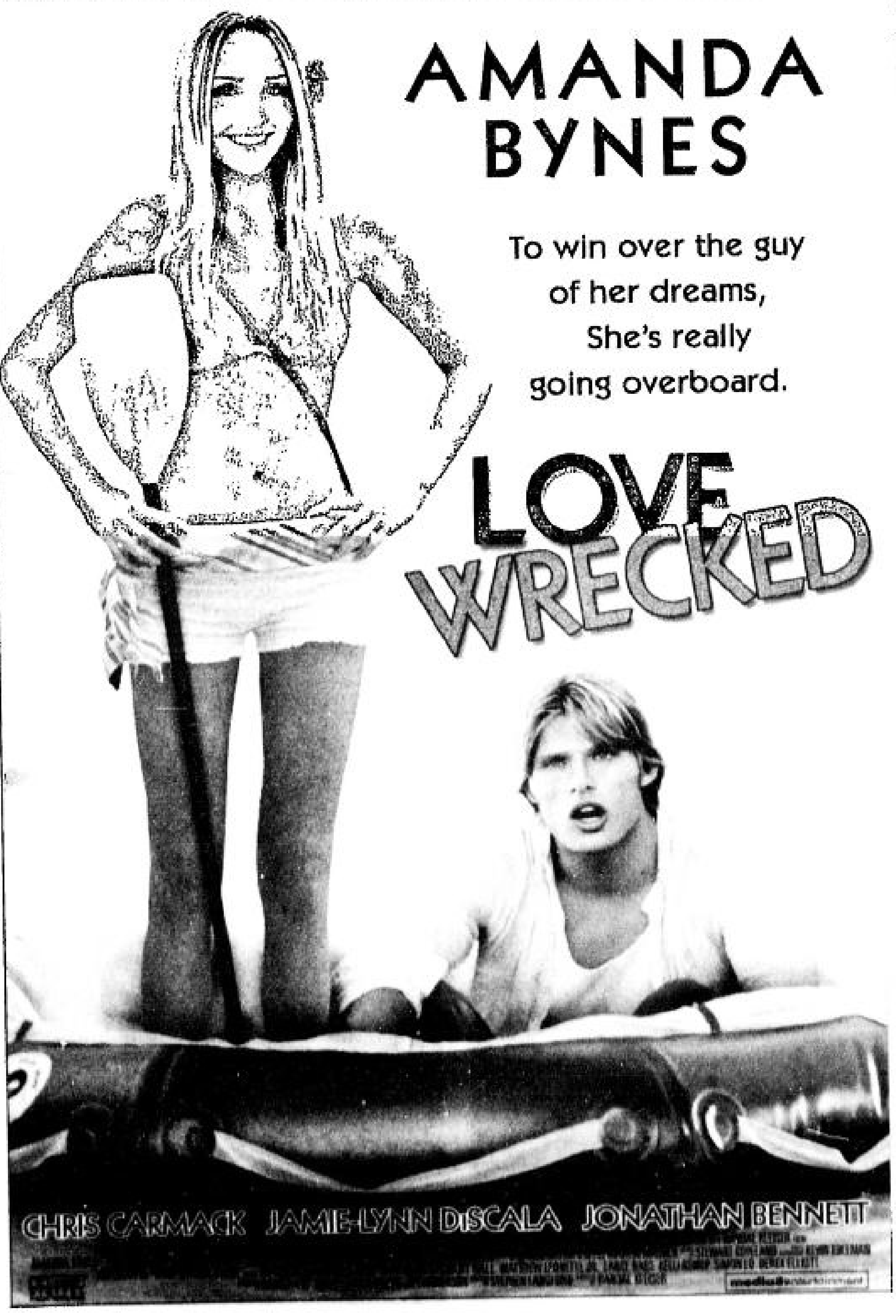
Purchase tickets online. No need to claim tickets 45 minutes ahead of time. Your loaded M-Pass card serves as your ticket. Just go straight to the cinemas, present your M-Pass card and enjoy your movie!

Ayala Malls CINEMAS

For more information, pls. cal 757-3860 or log on to SureSeats.com



OPENS JULY 5
MTRCB RATING ▸ PG-13 | Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult



'First row, thank you!'

From page A2-1

day off. We stood in line for hours like the rest, then waited some more, on our feet most of the time—something we had never done before.

We arrived at 10 a.m., early you might think. But more than 3,000 people had gotten there ahead of us. They must have queued up at daybreak.

The sun was raging. We were told to line up on the road just outside the mall.

Malou was standing behind us. She said she wanted a chance to help send seven siblings to school.

She was wearing high-heeled sandals. She winced when I accidentally stepped on her toes.

Brisk business

Behind her was Junjun—5'5" tall, fair and cute. His teeth were pearly white, probably the reason he was one of 24 finalists on "Close-Up To Fame," another talent search.

He had come straight from Davao.

The three of us shared my umbrella. In front of us was Charlene. She had forgotten her birth certificate, a requirement for the tryouts and no one could bring it over.

Charlene considered fetching the document herself, but she figured she wouldn't have enough money to come back.

Sidewalk vendors enjoyed brisk business selling bottled water, candies, fruit juices. Stalls inside the mall sent waiters outside to take orders for pizzas, burgers, iced tea...

"Pinoy Dream Academy" is like "Pinoy Big Brother," where strangers are locked inside a house for 100 days, with cameras trained on them 24/7.

"The twist is, Pinoy Dream Academy is a singing competition," director Lauren Dyogi would later say about the show, which starts airing on August 26.

'Faster! Faster!'

I was wearing a gray shirt, which looked much darker from perspiration. I noticed that exhausted aspirants leaned against railings, glass windows, rough walls. Not a few freshened up—powdering their cheeks, coloring their lips, shading their eyelids.

At long last, we were inside the mall.

We were told to make a run for the stage. The mall guards yelled, "Faster! Faster!"

As we walked up, I glimpsed a smile on Malou's lips, a sparkle in Charlene's eyes. We were one step closer to the dream.

Onstage, chests out, we proudly wore big number-stickers. We were in the first row.

Dyogi was holding a microphone, his eyes restless.

FIRST ROW/ A2-4

Was that a wedding picture or what?

RUSHES

BAGUIO CITY—YOU CAN TAKE THE Session Road Band out of Session Road but you can't take the road out of the band.

When vocalist and rhythm guitarist Hannah Romawac married long-time boyfriend Javier "Javy" Olives—was that a wedding picture on page A2/1)?—on June 16, her brothers Chavi (drummer, band leader) and JV (percussionist), lead guitarist Coy Placido, bassist Jal Taguibao, and keyboardist Jesse Hoover—plus friends and relatives—tried to make the whole-day event as close to home as possible.

The wedding at the St. Joseph Church was kept very private, said Ferdie Balanag, an old friend of the couple's. "Their theme song is 'Somewhere Over the Rainbow,'" Balanag said.

During the reception at the Baguio Country Club, only *tapuy* (native rice wine) was served with the festive food. Igorot dancers in G-strings and *tapis* (native skirt) "blessed" the jars of wine, beat the gongs and led the dancing.

But the *tapuy* was served in crystal glasses, not in the usual coconut shell. Another local band, Rewind, played reggae and R&B to the sound of the gongs. When Hannah danced with her ailing father, Tony Romawac—the "funniest shaman" in his younger days—there wasn't a dry eye in the hall.

The event was concluded with a Session Road Band concert on their favorite street. *Frank Cimatu, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

Back to partying

LORNA Tolentino seems to have lost the eight pounds she gained while taking care of her famous "patient," husband Rudy "Daboy" Fernandez. She earlier explained the weight gain, thus: "We ate together."

The two were spotted at Ruffa Gutierrez's birthday party last weekend. Check-out their photo here with Philip Salvador and Eddie Gutierrez. Looking good!

PARTY MOOD. Eddie Gutierrez, Rudy Fernandez, Lorna Tolentino and Philip Salvador.

RUDY ESPERAS

Dockers Award

FILIPINO filmmaker Ellen Ongkeko-Marfil's "Mga Pusang Gala" recently won the Dockers First Feature Award at the 30th Frameline, or San Francisco Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Film Festival.

The award came with a cash prize of $10,000.

Ellen is seen at left (coat in arm) with former classmates now based in the Bay Area, and some gay revelers.

Not gay

HONG KONG—Veteran Hong Kong actor-singer Andy Lau, 44, has denied rumors that he's gay. "But," he said, "I have gay friends." *AP*

THE ULTIMATE CINEMATIC EXPERIENCE

Movigoers of Ayala Mall's THX™ Certified Cinemas enjoy:

- A naturally balanced sound & planned sight lines so that every seat is "best in the house."
- No sound leakage from the adjacent cinema
- Multi-channel sound that makes you feel you are in the middle of the movie
- Accurate, clear & sharp images

So watch your favorite movies in a THX™ Certified Cinema for a clearer & more realistic movie-going experience.

THX CINEMAS. TRUE TO LIFE. TRUE TO MOVIES.

Ayala Malls CINEMAS

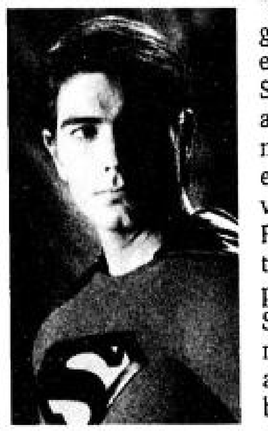
THE BIGGEST THX OPERATOR IN THE COUNTRY
GLORIETTA 4 • GREENBELT 3 • ALABANG TOWN CENTER

OPENING TODAY

Superman Returns

Stars Brandon Routh, Kate Bosworth, Eva Marie Saint, Parker Posey, Kevin Spacey

Directed by Bryan Singer



He's back. But as David Letterman pointedly asked Routh: "Exactly from where is Superman returning? The scriptwriters' answer: "He's been away for five years searching for the remains of his home planet."

The resurrection of the icon on the silver screen is a tricky proposition. Fortunately for fans, the task was given to Singer, famous for masterminding the smooth transition of the "X-Men" franchise from comic book to film. Reviews have all been raves, so far.

David Ansen of Newsweek: "From the start of this gorgeously crafted epic, you can feel Singer has real love and respect for [Superman], as well as a reverence for the 1978 version [directed by Richard Donner and topbilled by Christopher Reeve]. Next to Singer's champagne, most recent superhero adventure movies are barely sparkling cider."

A dissenting opinion is offered by Owen Gleiberman of Entertainment Weekly: "Wish [the movie] were more original and better paced."

A live-action adaptation from the popular Manga and hit anime series.

DRIFTING TO VICTORY

MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13

頭文字 INITIAL D

an Andrew Lau Alan Mak film

Shawn Yue Jay Chou
Edison Chen Anne Suzuki
Chapman To Jordan Chan
Anthony Wong

OPENS JULY 5

glorietta GREENBELT ALABANG TOWN CENTER AYALA CENTER CEBU MARKET! MARKET! Ayala Malls

AT THE CINEMAS

Reserve your tickets by texting SURESEATS GB3 or SURESEATS G4 to 2333 (Globe) or 211 (Smart) or log on to www.sureseats.com for web reservations.
Movie schedules may change without prior notice. For verification, please call 729 7777

THX

G1	GLORIETTA 1	1 SUPERMAN RETURNS	2 SUPERMAN RETURNS	3 SCARY MOVIE 4	4 SUPERMAN RETURNS
G4	GLORIETTA 4	1 SUPERMAN RETURNS	2 SUPERMAN RETURNS	3 THX SUPERMAN RETURNS 1:15, 4:30, 7:45, 11:00 GUARANTEED SEATS	
		4 THE LAKE HOUSE	5 THE FAST & THE FURIOUS: TOKYO DRIFT	6 SUPERMAN RETURNS	7 SUPERMAN RETURNS
GB1	GREENBELT 1	1 KINSEY	2 SUPERMAN RETURNS		
GB3	GREENBELT 3	1 THX SUPERMAN RETURNS 2:15, 5:30, 8:45, 12:00 GUARANTEED SEATS	2 THX SUPERMAN RETURNS 1:35, 4:50, 11:20 GUARANTEED SEATS		
		3 SUPERMAN RETURNS 12:00, 3:15, 6:30, 9:45 GUARANTEED SEATS	4 SUPERMAN RETURNS 12:30, 3:45, 7:00, 10:15 GUARANTEED SEATS	5 SUPERMAN RETURNS 11:30, 2:45 GUARANTEED SEATS	
ATC	ALABANG TOWN CENTER	1 THX SUPERMAN RETURNS	2 SUPERMAN RETURNS		
		3 SUPERMAN RETURNS	4 SUPERMAN RETURNS	5 SUPERMAN RETURNS	
ACC	AYALA CENTER CEBU	1 SUPERMAN RETURNS	2 SUPERMAN RETURNS	3 THE LAKE HOUSE	4 SCARY MOVIE 4
M2	MARKET! MARKET!	1 SUPERMAN RETURNS	2 SCARY MOVIE 4		
		3 SCARY MOVIE 4	4 SUPERMAN RETURNS	5 SUPERMAN RETURNS	

At the Activity Center

Customer Service text hotline: 0917 6095900
Customer Service Numbers: Glorietta - 752 7272; from 10am to 8pm
Greenbelt - 752 4853; from 11am to 12mn
Alabang Town Center - 842 2782; from 10am to 8pm
Ayala Center Cebu - (032) 231 5342 loc 324
Market! Market! - 886 7519

GLORIETTA	ALABANG TOWN CENTER
Philippine Retailers Association's Retail Careers & Jobs Fair June 28 to 29, 2006	Gary V Live in concert! July 1, 2006
AYALA CENTER CEBU	MARKET! MARKET!
Wellness Revo June 30, 2006	Sony Summer Pleasures 2006 June 19 to July 12, 2006

GREENBELT
Ode To The Pasig River
June 27 to August 27, 2006

Greenbelt Onstage
JAZZ AND MORE feat. Mon David w/ Bituin Escalante
July 8, 2006
For inquiries, pls. call Ticketworld - 8915610 or 4260103

Ayala MUSEUM
Ode To The Pasig River
June 27 to August 27, 2006
For inquiries, please call 757-7117 to 21 loc 29 or visit www.ayalamuseum.org

SUPERMAN RETURNS

OPENS TODAY AT ALL

Ayala Malls CINEMAS

Go FASTER THAN A SPEEDING BULLET™

Reserve your seat by texting SURESEATS GB3 at 2333 (Globe) or 211 (Smart)
Or log on to www.sureseats.com for web reservation

AYALA MALLS CINEMAS' SUPERMAN RETURNS™ SCREENING SCHEDULES FOR JUNE 28 ONLY

GLORIETTA 4
Cinema 1** - 12:45 PM, 4:00, 7:15, 10:30
Cinema 2 - 10:30 AM, 1:45 PM, 5:00, 8:15
Cinema 3* - 1:15 PM, 4:30, 7:45, 11:00
Cinema 6** - 12:15 PM, 3:30, 6:45, 10:00
Cinema 7 - 11:45 AM, 3:00 PM, 6:15, 9:30

GREENBELT 3
Cinema 1* - 2:15 PM, 5:30, 8:45, 12:00
Cinema 2* - 1:35 PM, 4:50, 11:20
Cinema 3** - 12:00 NN, 3:15, 6:30, 9:45
Cinema 4** - 12:30 PM, 3:45, 7:00, 10:15
Cinema 5** - 11:30 AM, 2:45 PM

GLORIETTA 1
Cinema 1 - 12:00 NN, 3:10 PM, 6:20, 9:30
Cinema 2 - 12:40 PM, 3:50, 7:00, 10:00

GREENBELT 1
Cinema 2 - 11:00 AM, 2:10 PM, 5:20, 8:30

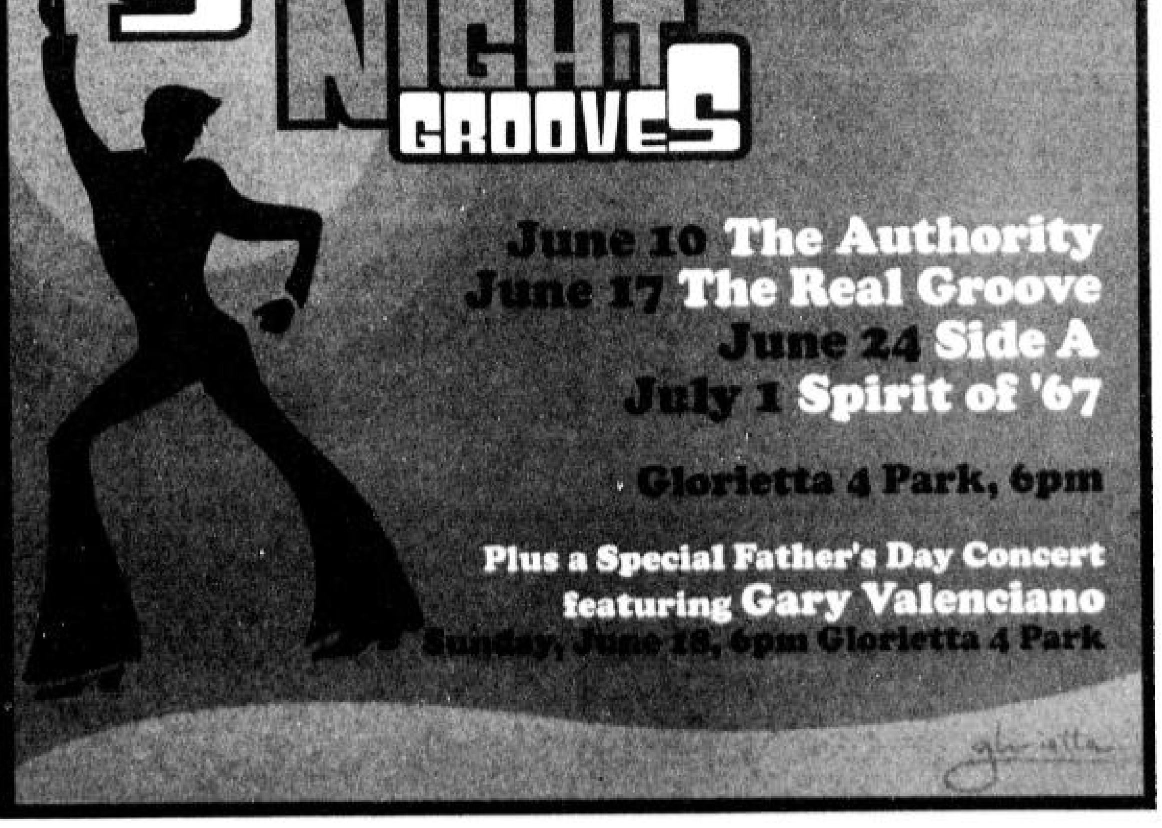
ALABANG TOWN CENTER
Cinema 1 (THX) - 12:30 PM, 3:40, 6:50, 10:00
Cinema 2 - 12:00 NN, 3:10 PM, 6:20, 9:30
Cinema 3 - 1:00 PM, 4:10, 7:20, 10:30
Cinema 5 - 1:30 PM, 4:40, 7:50, 11:00

MARKET! MARKET!
Cinema 1 - 11:45 AM, 2:55 PM, 6:05, 9:15
Cinema 4 - 12:15 PM, 3:25, 6:35, 9:45
Cinema 5 - 11:15 AM, 2:25 PM, 5:35, 8:45

AYALA CENTER CEBU
Cinema 1 - 12:00 NN, 2:45, 5:50, 9:15
Cinema 2 - 12:15 PM, 3:00, 6:05, 9:30

* THX & Guaranteed Seat Cinema
** Digital Sound & Guaranteed Seat Cinemas
Screening schedules are subject to change without prior notice

MTRCB Rating: General Audience (All Ages Admitted)



SATURDAY NIGHT GROOVES

June 10 The Authority
June 17 The Real Groove
June 24 Side A
July 1 Spirit of '67

Glorietta 4 Park, 6pm

Plus a Special Father's Day Concert featuring Gary Valenciano
Sunday, June 18, 6pm Glorietta 4 Park

Ayala Malls
glorietta

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD CINEMAS MOVIE GUIDE

MOVIEWORLD

CINEMA ACCESS
635-5555
FOR ALL BRANCHES

www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

MOVIES/SCHEDULES/PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

GALLERIA 632-9116

1 SUPERMAN RETURNS • THX
2 SUPERMAN RETURNS
3 SUPERMAN RETURNS
4 SUPERMAN RETURNS
5 SUPERMAN RETURNS
6 SUPERMAN RETURNS
7 LAKE HOUSE
8 THE FAST AND THE FURIOUS 3
9 SCARY MOVIE 4
10 THE NUN

ERMITA 536-7809 to 12

1 SUPERMAN RETURNS
2 SCARY MOVIE 4
3 THE FAST AND THE FURIOUS 3
4 SUPERMAN RETURNS
5 SUPERMAN RETURNS
6 SUPERMAN RETURNS
7 THE NUN

METRO EAST 682-8193 • 682-8199

1 THE FAST AND THE FURIOUS 3
2 SUPERMAN RETURNS
3 SUPERMAN RETURNS
4 SCARY MOVIE 4
5 LAKE HOUSE
6 SUPERMAN RETURNS
7 SUPERMAN RETURNS
8 THE NUN

NOVALICHES 935-3231 / 935-3229-30

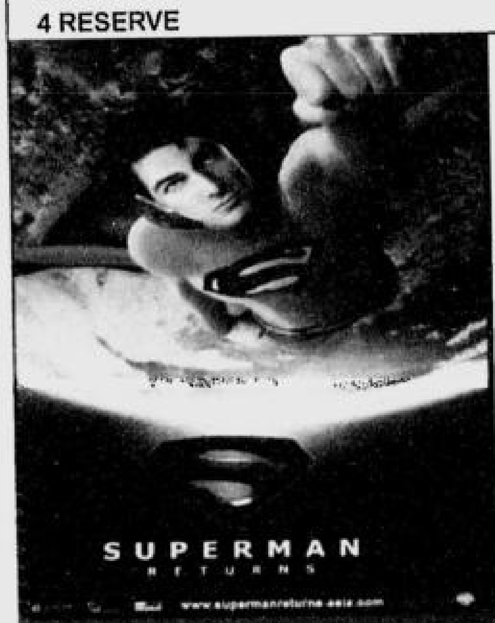
1 SUPERMAN RETURNS
2 SUPERMAN RETURNS
3 THE FAST AND THE FURIOUS 3
4 SCARY MOVIE 4
5 SUPERMAN RETURNS
6 THE NUN

CITISQUARE MALABON 288-2575

1 SUPERMAN RETURNS
2 SUPERMAN RETURNS
3 RESERVE
4 RESERVE

PIONEER 687-5378

1 SUPERMAN RETURNS
2 SUPERMAN RETURNS
3 SCARY MOVIE 4
4 LAKE HOUSE



BUY YOUR TICKETS to SUPERMAN RETURNS™ and
Get 1 SUPERMAN RETURNS™ magnet for a minimum single purchase of 3 regular tickets.
Get 2 SUPERMAN RETURNS™ magnets for a minimum single purchase of more than 3 regular tickets.
FOR GALLERIA, MANILA, & METRO EAST BRANCHES.
PROMO PERIOD: JUNE 28 TO JULY 11
Collect all 6 SUPERMAN Returns™ magnets now!
Get 1 SUPERMAN RETURNS™ magnet for a minimum single purchase of 2 regular tickets.
Get 2 SUPERMAN RETURNS™ magnets for a minimum single purchase of more than 2 regular tickets.
FOR THE REST OF ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD BRANCHES
SMART MONEY MOBILE PAYMENT also accepted.
Just text <store code> space <amount> and send to 270.
NOW SHOWING AT
See Posters for more details

STA. ROSA (049) 837-0907

1 SUPERMAN RETURNS
2 LAKE HOUSE
3 THE INSIDE MAN
4 SUPERMAN RETURNS

LIPA (043) 757-3664 (043) 312-5870

1 SUPERMAN RETURNS
2 SUPERMAN RETURNS
3 AQUAMARINE
4 THE INSIDE MAN

DASMARIÑAS (046) 852-2125 (046) 416-4332

1 SUPERMAN RETURNS
2 LAKE HOUSE
3 THE INSIDE MAN
4 SUPERMAN RETURNS

ANGELES (045) 892-2348

1 SUPERMAN RETURNS
2 SUPERMAN RETURNS
3 SUBMERGED
4 THE INSIDE MAN

IMUS (046) 875 3838 (046) 471-8188

1 SUPERMAN RETURNS
2 SUPERMAN RETURNS
3 SCARY MOVIE 4
4 SUPERMAN RETURNS

STARMILLS (045) 875-1927 (045) 981-5270

1 SUPERMAN RETURNS
2 THE INSIDE MAN
3 SCARY MOVIE 4
4 THE FAST AND THE FURIOUS 3
5 SUPERMAN RETURNS
6 SUPERMAN RETURNS

BACOLOD (034) 441 0453 (034) 441 0455

1 SUPERMAN RETURNS
2 THE OMEN
3 SUPERMAN RETURNS
4 SCARY MOVIE 4
5 THE INSIDE MAN
6 SUPERMAN RETURNS

ILOILO (033) 336-8070

1 SUPERMAN RETURNS
2 SUPERMAN RETURNS
3 SCARY MOVIE 4
4 THE FAST AND THE FURIOUS 3
5 THE INSIDE MAN
6 THE OMEN

The Perfect Gift All Year Round
A Pre Paid Movie Pass to the Hottest Seats in town.
Get Special discounts for volume purchases!
For marketing and events/reservations please call Marketing Services Department at 687-7945 to 47 locals 14 and 15

MMTA
METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION
MOVIE GUIDE
NOW SHOWING

SHANG CINEPLEX
1 SUPERMAN RETURNS
2 THE FAST & THE FURIOUS-3
SUPERMAN RETURNS
3 SUPERMAN RETURNS
4 SUPERMAN RETURNS
PREMIERE
SUPERMAN RETURNS

Maragana CINEMA
(Pasay) tel 833.3290 / 833.3274
1 PACQUIAO
2 SUPERMAN RETURNS
3 THE OMEN 666

Center Mall Cinema
Baguio Center Mall, Magsaysay Avenue (Baguio City) tel (074)- (4449346)
1 SUPERMAN RETURNS
2 SUPERMAN RETURNS

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03
1 SUPERMAN RETURNS
2 SUBMERGED
3 SUPERMAN RETURNS
4 PACQUIAO

CINEMA 2000
Cinema 2000 Waltermart Makati
Waltermart Center, Chino Roces Ave. cor. Antonio Arnaiz Pio del Pilar, Makati City
Tel 816.4214 / 816.4216
1 SUPERMAN RETURNS
2 SUPERMAN RETURNS
3 SCARY MOVIE - 4
4 SUPERMAN RETURNS

Centre Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007
1 CARS
2 PACQUIAO

EASTWOOD CINEMAS
(Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave (C-5) Quezon City) tel 687.6963 or 72
1 SUPERMAN RETURNS
2 SUPERMAN RETURNS
3 SUPERMAN RETURNS
4 SUPERMAN RETURNS
THE FAST & THE FURIOUS-3

starmall EDSA-SHAW
(Mandaluyong) tel. 7266150
3 SUPERMAN RETURNS
4 SUPERMAN RETURNS
5 FAST 7 THE FURIOUS -3

metropolis star cinema
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(ALABANG) tel. 8504285, 5433954
1 KAPAG TUMIBOK ANG PUSO
2 WHORE
3 SUPERMAN RETURNS
4 SUPERMAN RETURNS

CINEMA 2000
Movie Theatres of the New Millenium

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383
1 PACQUIAO
2 SUPERMAN RETURNS
3 SUPERMAN RETURNS
4 LAKE HOUSE

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Biñan) tel. (049) 4111146
1 LAKE HOUSE
2 SUPERMAN RETURNS
3 SUPERMAN RETURNS
4 PACQUIAO

THEATRES
SCARY MOVIE - 4
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SUPERMAN RETURNS

PACIFIC MALL LUCENA CINEMAGIC
Pacific Mall Lucena Tel (042) 660-5271
PACQUIAO
SUPERMAN RETURNS
RESERVED
RESERVED

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771
1 PACQUIAO
2 SUPERMAN RETURNS
3 SUPERMAN RETURNS

Cinema 2000 Metrotown
(Tarlac) tel (045) 982.1729
1 SUPERMAN RETURNS
2 PACQUIAO
3 SUPERMAN RETURNS
4 INSIDE MAN

Filinvest
FESTIVAL CINEMA
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72
1 SUPERMAN RETURNS
2 SUPERMAN RETURNS
3 SUPERMAN RETURNS
4 SUPERMAN RETURNS
5 THE FAST & THE FURIOUS - 3
6 SUPERMAN RETURNS
7 LAKE HOUSE
8 SCARY MOVIE - 4
9 SUPERMAN RETURNS
10 KAPAG TUMIBOK ANG PUSO

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Plaridel) tel (044) 795.3320
1 SUPERMAN RETURNS
2 SUPERMAN RETURNS
3 SUPERMAN RETURNS

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Gapan) tel. (044) 4867736
1 SUPERMAN RETURNS
2 SUPERMAN RETURNS

Llanas Cinema
(Pasig) tel 640.4748
1 THE OMEN 666
2 KAPAG TUMIBOK ANG PUSO

Blue Wave
Sumulong Highway cor. Mayor Gil Fernando Street, Sta. Niño, Marikina City tel. 9341937
1 SUPERMAN RETURNS
2 THE FAST 7 THE FURIOUS
3 SUPERMAN RETURNS
4 SUPERMAN RETURNS

Llanas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276
1 SUPERMAN RETURNS
2 PLEASE CALL
3 WHORE
4 PLEASE CALL

Llanas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202
1 SUPERMAN RETURNS
2 PLEASE CALL
3 LAKE HOUSE
4 KAPAG TUMIBOK ANG PUSO
5 PACQUIAO

SUPER CINERAMA
Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto tel 7334228
1 SUPERMAN RETURNS
2 SUPERMAN RETURNS
3 KAPAG TUMIBOK ANG PUSO
4 THE NUN
5 PACQUIAO

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790
1 INSIDE MAN
2 PACQUIAO
3 SUPERMAN RETURNS
4 SUPERMAN RETURNS

MARKETPLACE
Mandaluyong tel 533.3851 / 533.3856
1 SUPERMAN RETURNS
2 WHORE
3 SCARY MOVIE - 4
4 RESERVED

Berma Cinema
(Baclaran) tel 879.2030 / 879.2029
1 PLEASE CALL
2 KAPAG TUMIBOK ANG PUSO

MOVIES / SCHEDULES / PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICF

LAUREN Dyogi, right, with "PBB'S" Richard Reynante. RODEL ROTONI

'First row, thank you!'

From page A2-2

Finally, he spoke: "First row, thank you very much."

The next moment, we were being escorted down the stage and out of the audition area.

That was that.

Seven hours down the drain.

We were not even asked to sing... or introduce ourselves.

Wasn't this a singing competition?

Small consolation

We would get some explanations later.

"It is difficult to say [what exactly we are looking for]," Dyogi told Margaux and me, as INQUIRER reporters.

He continued: "There is a certain personality... even if he or she just stands there... we can see, with just the facial expression, the body language, that he or she will do very well on TV."

Those picked from the other groups were asked to come back on stage after the heart-broken dreamers had left. Some were asked to describe themselves. Some were even asked to sing!

The girls stood smiling, like in a beauty pageant, hands on their waists. Again, Dyogi picked a few more lucky ones to go through.

Again he explained—or at least he tried to: "It is not just being good-looking. You have to have a certain appeal on TV. You should be charismatic."

"That means I don't have charisma?" I pushed.

Dyogi laughed. He said he chose different types. I looked and saw a common thread: they were all good-looking. The girls wore sexy clothes; the boys were in body-hugging shirts as well.

The audition was over by 6 p.m. Thousands had gone home, perhaps to resume dreaming.

> After seven hours of waiting, we were not even asked to introduce ourselves

On Friday, the next audition will be held in SM Marilao, Bulacan.

POWER PLANT CINEMA
Rockwell Center, Makati City ☎ Tel. No: 8981440-41
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND•EX

SUPERMAN RETURNS G 11:40,2:35,5:35	SUPERMAN RETURNS G 12:45,3:45,9:45	SUPERMAN RETURNS G 1:20,4:20,10:20
SUPERMAN RETURNS G 12:10,3:10	THE FAST AND THE FURIOUS: TOKYO DRIFT PG13 12:50,3:10,5:30, 7:50,10:10	SUPERMAN RETURNS G 2:00,5:00,8:00,11:05

MOVIES AND SCREENING SCHEDULES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE. FOR VERIFICATION CALL 898-144041

SHANG CINEPLEX
① SUPERMAN RETURNS MTRCB GP 1 40, 4:50, 8.00, 11:10
② FAST AND THE FURIOUS MTRCB PG-13 12 20, 2 45
SUPERMAN RETURNS MTRCB GP 6 20, 9 30
③ SUPERMAN RETURNS MTRCB GP 12.40, 3.50
④ SUPERMAN RETURNS MTRCB GP 1.10, 4.20
PREMIERE THEATRE SUPERMAN RETURNS 11 30, 2 40, 5 50, 9 00 MTRCB GP
Movies and schedules are subject to change without prior notice.
Catch the Cineplex Special
A Blockbuster Gift for All Season
The Shang Cineplex Gift Certificates
Cinema Treats for Cinema 1,2,3 and 4
Premiere Rewards for Premiere Theatre
Call 633-7851, loc 171 or 633-2227 for more details
Shangri-La Plaza

GREENHILLS CINEMAS
GREENHILLS SHOPPING CENTER, ORTIGAS AVENUE, GREENHILLS, SAN JUAN, METRO MANILA
THEATRE MALL GREENHILLS
a landmark reinvented!
NOW SHOWING
1 FAST & THE FURIOUS / SUPERMAN RETURNS 11:30, 1:50, 4:10 6:30 / 8:50 PG13 / GP
2 SUPERMAN RETURNS 12:20, 3:30, 6:40 9:50 GP
DOLBY DIGITAL
PROMENADE GREENHILLS
...a destination for all!
NOW SHOWING
3 SUPERMAN RETURNS 10:20, 1:25, 4:35 7:45, 10:50 GP
4 SUPERMAN RETURNS 11:40, 2:45, 5:50 9:00 GP
5 SUPERMAN RETURNS 10:35, 1:40, 4:45 7:50, 10:55 GP
TICKET PRICES & SCREENING TIME SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE. FOR CINEMA INQUIRIES, CALL: 722 4496.

MUSIC MUSEUM

JUNE 30,2006	NINA... in VERY MANILOW	9:00PM
JULY 29,2006	PILITA C. & ELIZABETH R.	8:30PM

TAVERNO PROMENADE GREENHILLS

EVERY MONDAY	DANCE NIGHT	7:00PM
JULY 6,2006	PRIME COUNCIL	9:00PM
JULY 7,2006	FREEVERSE	9:00PM
	FOR INQUIRIES PLS CALL 722-4532 LOC 116	

FOR INQUIRIES & RESERVATION, PLS. CALL : 721-6726 OR 721-0635

'Na-Scam Ka Na Ba?' Con artists, beware

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

QTV 11 HAS MADE A NAME FOR itself as a channel with some innovative programs. A number of them have turned out to be duds, others have veered away from their original forms and intent, but some have continued to make a difference on the local boob tube and that's all to the good.

We hope the same thing happens to QTV11's latest show "Na-Scam Ka Na Ba?" which we caught last Tuesday, June 20 at 8:30 p.m.

The show serves a valuable purpose because it warns viewers about the many ways that crafty and devious con artists think up to part others from their money or possessions.

Hosted by **Leo Martinez** and **Maureen Larrazabal**, the program's first telecast focused on scams involving cellphones and other electronic equipment and services.

That was a savvy thrust because electronics are high on many people's awareness list, so viewer interest in the initial telecast was more or less assured.

We trust that viewers took not of the many scams related to cell phones and bogus e-loading stations, so they won't be as easily victimized from here on in.

Martinez, in his Batangeño persona, is a good choice as program host for this sort of show because of his no-nonsense and *masa* character and appeal.

Have you been scammed? You may want to let the program know about it, so that the con job can be analyzed, counter-moves are plotted out, and viewers are warned against falling for similar schemes.

For our part, we're pretty clueless about other folks' hidden agendas, so we've been victimized a number of times. Once, a friend asked us to help her make her mark in the pyramiding world—and, despite our "friendship," we ended up kissing our "help" goodbye.

Another time, another "friend" borrowed money from us, and offered some "diamonds" as "collateral." Well, the gems turned out to be as bogus as our fair-weather "friend."

One other "friend" wanted to start an egg-selling business (of all things), and we gamely provided part of the capital. As expected, we ended up—with egg on our face.

Here's an unusual but hopefully instructive series of events: When we were directing a film, a movie worker asked us for a "loan." As expected, it was never paid.

Some months later, we acted in a play, and the movie worker showed up at the theater to ask for another "loan."

This happened several times more, with all of his appearances timed to the opening of the latest production we were involved in, either as actor or director.

What was the "logic" here? Belatedly, we figured out that our occasional visitors thought that we earned a lot from each new production, so we would feel more generous and accede to his umpteenth request for a "loan."

He was wrong, of course. We weren't being generous, we were just a soft touch. Plus, the sums he "borrowed" weren't all that huge, so not much harm done...

—There's a lesson in there somewhere, and we sure hope we've learned it.

Mowelfund Golf Cup

AT 8 a.m. on June 30, the first Mowelfund Gulf Cup tees off at the Intramuros Club (former Muni Golf links). Mowelfund, the Filipino film industry's welfare foundation for movie workers, together with Talk About Marketing, is holding the celebrity golf tournament to raise badly needed funds to provide for the welfare needs of its 4,500 members.

Confirmed participants from show biz include **Vic Sotto, Francis Magalona, Michael V, Anjo Yllana, Maru Sotto, Joey Marquez, Johnny Delgado, Danny Javier, Buboy Garrovillo, Raymond Bagatsing, Edgar Mortiz, Bearwin Meily, Noel Trinidad, Gary Lising, Christine Dayrit, Lally Laurel Trinidad, Paulina Sotto** and **Nadia Montenegro**.

From media—**Jun Nicdao, Ray Langit, Rino Basilio, Ricky Alegre, Manny Luzon, Diego Cagahastian.**

Plus **Antonio Abacan, Francis Paderna, Koichi Watanabe, Cerge Remonde, Robert Rivera, Chiz Escudero, Nelson Cheng, Ben Lista, Gary Vasquez,** and **Manolo** and **Roger Favis.**

Tito Sotto is the tournament chair, with Pat Roman as consultant. Everyone is enjoined to support the Mowelfund Golf Cup, because our movie workers really need the help and support. Call 7271961, 4135268 or 9363879. Mowelfund is headed by the creative and resourceful **Boots Anson-Roa.**

Mother Lily & Tieng kiss and make up

CHEER FACTOR

By Bayani San Diego Jr.

LITERALLY.

Regal Entertainment executive producer Lily Monteverde and Solar Entertainment president and chief executive officer Wilson Tieng "kissed and made up" at Ruffa Gutierrez's birthday party in Le Soufflé Rockwell Makati last Sunday.

The term "kiss and make up" in fact came from Monteverde, who told INQUIRER Entertainment in a phone interview that the reconciliation was "*hulog ng langit* (heaven sent)."

She described her reaction. "*Para akong nabunutan ng tinik sa dibdib* (Like a thorn was pulled out of my chest)."

Jun Lalin, Gutierrez's personal assistant, said everyone was surprised: "They suddenly bussed each other... and hugged! Then they started speaking in Chinese. I looked around for a translator!"

Touching

Tieng confirmed the account. "She approached our table and apologized for being emotional. I told her I had already forgotten the incident. I was so touched by her gesture that, although she was talking to me in English, I responded in the Fookien dialect. The cameramen were telling us: *Mag*-English *naman kayo*."

Monteverde added, "I'm very happy that we have solved that problem."

In January, Tieng almost sued Monteverde over a misunderstanding during the Metro Manila Film Festival awards. She had chided Tieng for giving "biased" comments to the INQUIRER for a story published on Jan. 5.

"My family was traumatized by what happened," Tieng recounted. "But I continued communicating with her husband Remy and their children Dondon and Roselle."

Tieng is a member of the executive and selection committees of the MMFF.

In spite of their disagreement, he said, "I never voted against Regal [entries]."

As proof, he pointed out that Monteverde's film outfits have four out of the 10 entries in this year's festival.

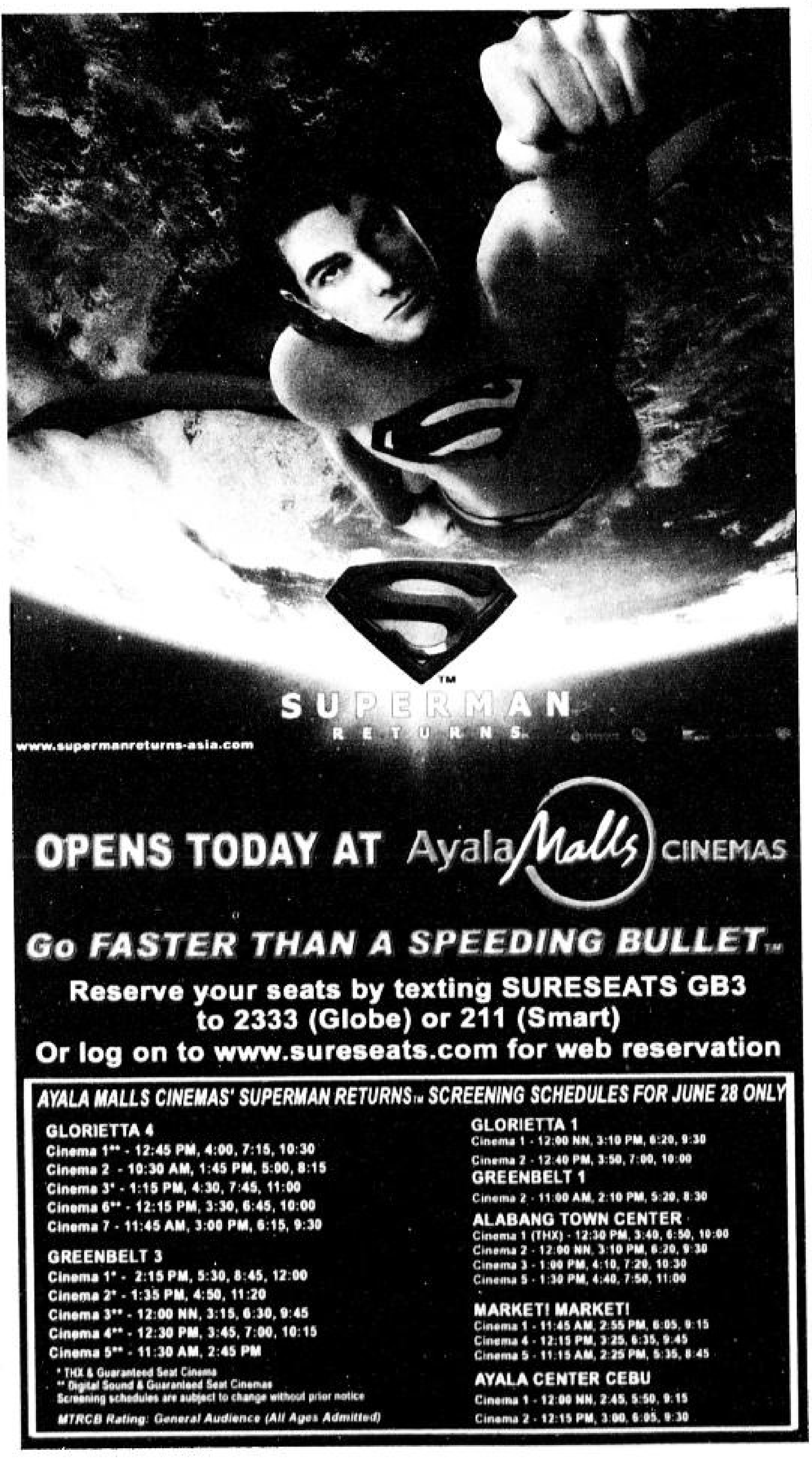
Of the ceasefire, Monteverde said, "Life is beautiful."

At Sunday's party, she found the time and wits to put together a new movie inspired by the US TV hit "Desperate Housewives," to be directed by Eric Quizon and starring the beauties seated at her table—Dawn Zulueta, Gretchen Barretto and Pops Fernandez—and Ruffa, the birthday girl.

SUPERMAN RETURNS
www.supermanreturns-asia.com

BUY YOUR TICKETS to SUPERMAN RETURNS™ and
Get 1 SUPERMAN RETURNS™ magnet for a minimum single purchase of 3 regular tickets.
Get 2 SUPERMAN RETURNS™ magnets for a minimum single purchase of more than 3 regular tickets.
FOR GALLERIA, MANILA, & METRO EAST BRANCHES.
PROMO PERIOD: JUNE 28 TO JULY 11
Collect all 6 SUPERMAN Returns™ magnets now!
Get 1 SUPERMAN RETURNS™ magnet for a minimum single purchase of 2 regular tickets.
Get 2 SUPERMAN RETURNS™ magnets for a minimum single purchase of more than 2 regular tickets.
FOR THE REST OF ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD BRANCHES
SMART MONEY MOBILE PAYMENT also accepted.
Just text <store code> space <amount> and send to 270.
NOW SHOWING AT
See Posters for more details
Per DTI-NCR permit no. 3413 series of 2005

THE THIRDLINE INC proudly presents
MON DAVID
GRAND PRIZE WINNER
1st London International Jazz Competition for vocalists
Jazz and More...
featuring
MARK LOPEZ *piano*
COLBY dela CALZADA *bass*
KOKO BERMEJO *drums*
MICHAEL GUEVARRA *sax&flute*
NOEL SANTIAGO *guitar*
JOEY QUIRINO *keyboards*
MARINA TOLENTINO
& IVY MANIQUIS *back-up vocals*
with the special participation of
ARTI STA. RITA
NICOLE & CARLO
with special guest
BITUIN ESCALANTE
8 JULY 2006 SATURDAY 9:00pm
Onstage GREENBELT1, AYALA CENTER, MAKATI
Orchestra P1500 Upper Orchestra P1200 Upper Orchestra Side P1000 Balcony P500
for the benefit of SAGIP BUHAY MEDICAL FOUNDATION, INC.
Tickets are available at selected National Book Store branches > Tower Records (Makati and Alabang) > Robinson's Department Store (Malate, Galleria, Pampanga, Cavite, Festival Mall) > Ayala Center Greenbelt 1 Ticket Booth Cinema Lobby > Glorietta 1 Ticket Booth Cinema Lobby and on the > TicketWorld web site: www.ticketworld.com.ph TICKETWORLD at 891-9999 or at THIRDLINE at 426-0103, 4265301, 4333332, thirdline_2005@yahoo.com for inquiries & reservations.
major sponsors
media partners
lay-out & design by Noe Tio



SUPERMAN RETURNS
www.supermanreturns-asia.com
OPENS TODAY AT Ayala Malls CINEMAS
Go FASTER THAN A SPEEDING BULLET™
Reserve your seats by texting SURESEATS GB3 to 2333 (Globe) or 211 (Smart)
Or log on to www.sureseats.com for web reservation

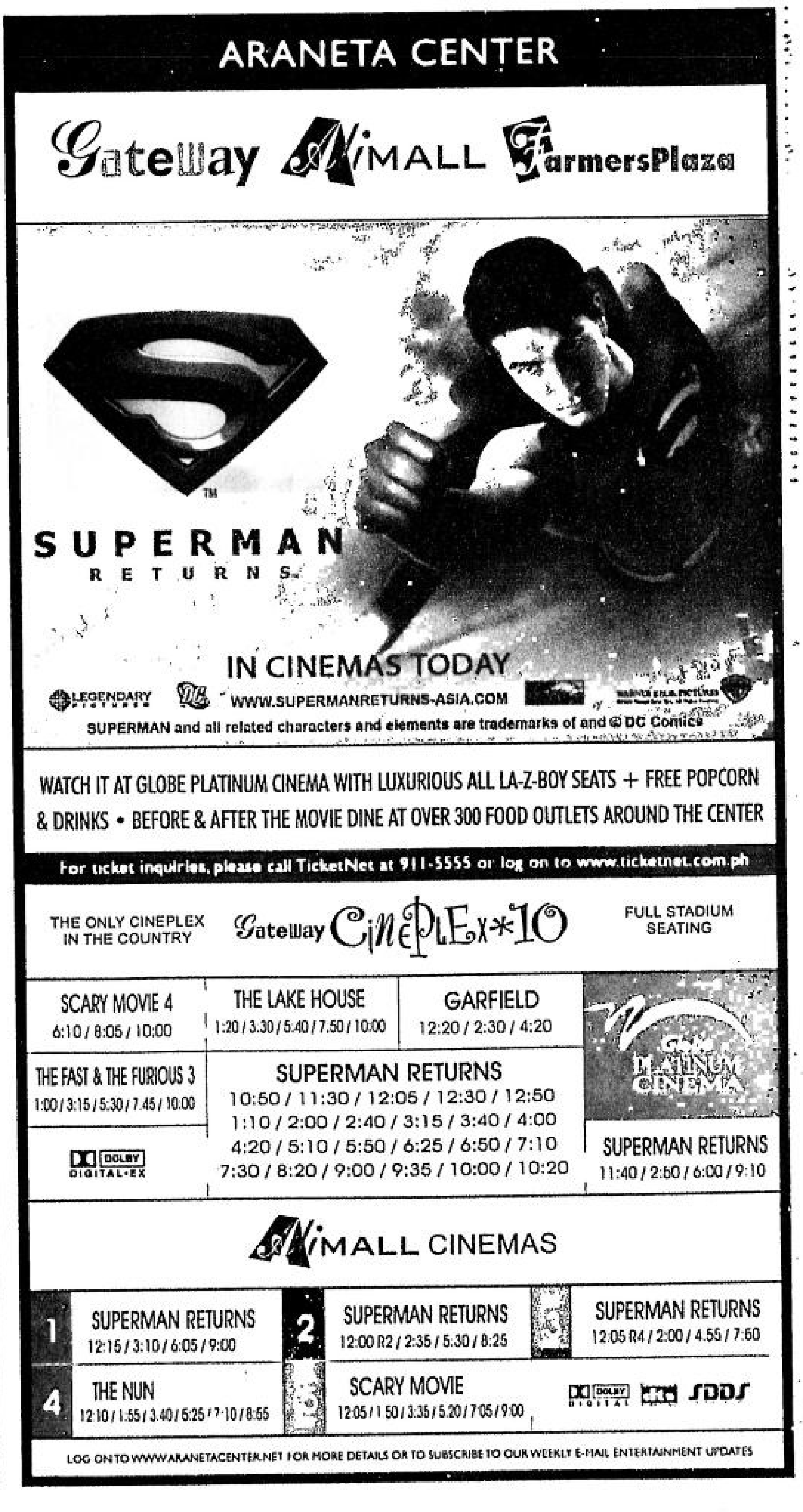
AYALA MALLS CINEMAS' SUPERMAN RETURNS™ SCREENING SCHEDULES FOR JUNE 28 ONLY

GLORIETTA 4
Cinema 1** - 12:45 PM, 4:00, 7:15, 10:30
Cinema 2 - 10:30 AM, 1:45 PM, 5:00, 8:15
Cinema 3* - 1:15 PM, 4:30, 7:45, 11:00
Cinema 6** - 12:15 PM, 3:30, 6:45, 10:00
Cinema 7 - 11:45 AM, 3:00 PM, 6:15, 9:30

GREENBELT 3
Cinema 1* - 2:15 PM, 5:30, 8:45, 12:00
Cinema 2* - 1:35 PM, 4:50, 11:20
Cinema 3** - 12:00 NN, 3:15, 6:30, 9:45
Cinema 4** - 12:30 PM, 3:45, 7:00, 10:15
Cinema 5** - 11:30 AM, 2:45 PM

* THX & Guaranteed Seat Cinema
** Digital Sound & Guaranteed Seat Cinemas
Screening schedules are subject to change without prior notice
MTRCB Rating: General Audience (All Ages Admitted)

GLORIETTA 1
Cinema 1 - 12:00 NN, 3:10 PM, 6:20, 9:30
Cinema 2 - 12:40 PM, 3:50, 7:00, 10:00
GREENBELT 1
Cinema 2 - 11:00 AM, 2:10 PM, 5:20, 8:30
ALABANG TOWN CENTER
Cinema 1 (THX) - 12:30 PM, 3:40, 6:50, 10:00
Cinema 2 - 12:00 NN, 3:10 PM, 6:20, 9:30
Cinema 3 - 1:00 PM, 4:10, 7:20, 10:30
Cinema 5 - 1:30 PM, 4:40, 7:50, 11:00
MARKET! MARKET!
Cinema 1 - 11:45 AM, 2:55 PM, 6:05, 9:15
Cinema 4 - 12:15 PM, 3:25, 6:35, 9:45
Cinema 5 - 11:15 AM, 2:25 PM, 5:35, 8:45
AYALA CENTER CEBU
Cinema 1 - 12:00 NN, 2:45, 5:50, 9:15
Cinema 2 - 12:15 PM, 3:00, 6:05, 9:30



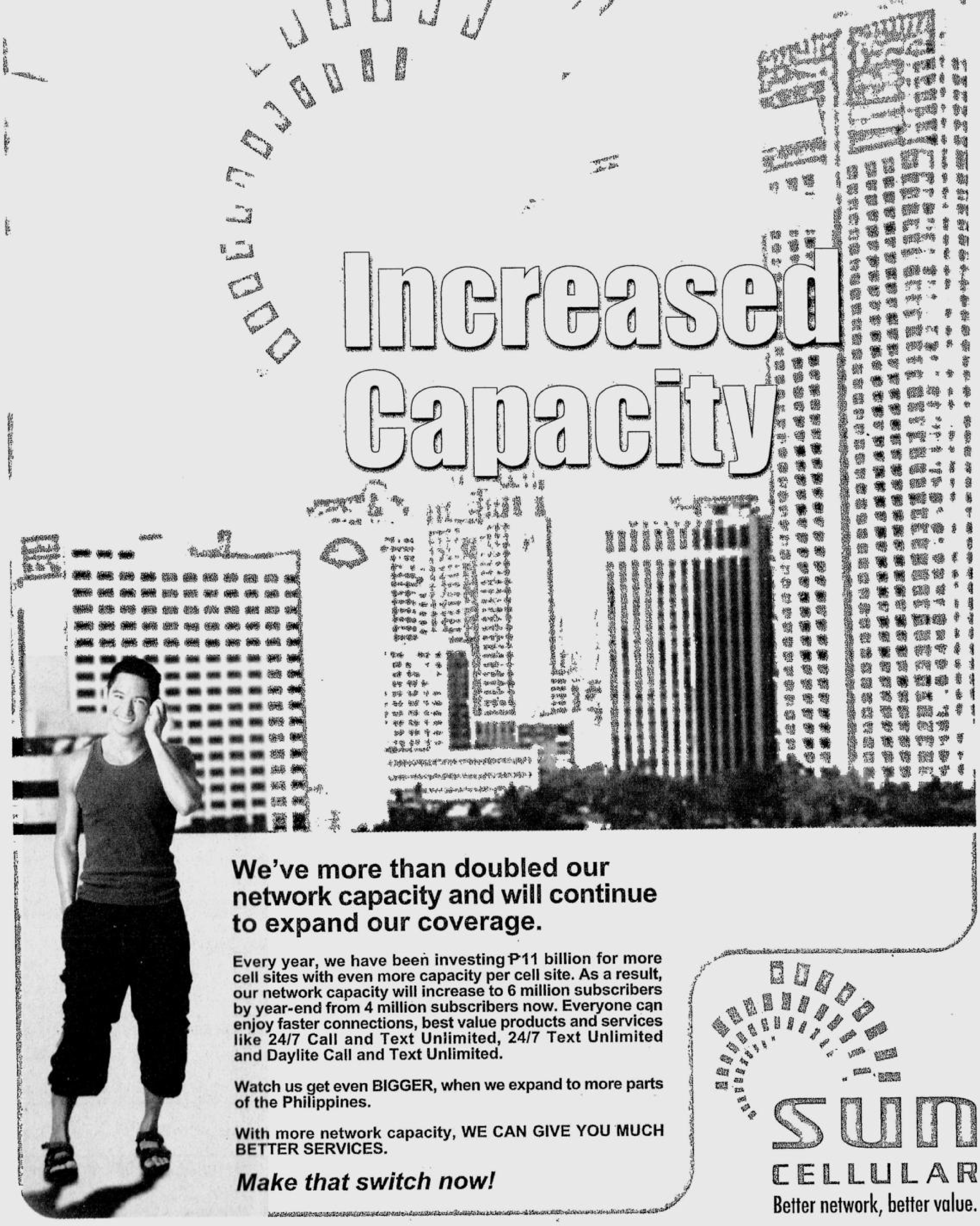
ARANETA CENTER
Gateway Alimall FarmersPlaza
SUPERMAN RETURNS
IN CINEMAS TODAY
WWW.SUPERMANRETURNS-ASIA.COM
SUPERMAN and all related characters and elements are trademarks of and © DC Comics
WATCH IT AT GLOBE PLATINUM CINEMA WITH LUXURIOUS ALL LA-Z-BOY SEATS + FREE POPCORN & DRINKS • BEFORE & AFTER THE MOVIE DINE AT OVER 300 FOOD OUTLETS AROUND THE CENTER
For ticket inquiries, please call TicketNet at 911-5555 or log on to www.ticketnet.com.ph
THE ONLY CINEPLEX IN THE COUNTRY
Gateway CINEPLEX*10
FULL STADIUM SEATING

SCARY MOVIE 4
6:10 / 8:05 / 10:00
THE LAKE HOUSE
1:20 / 3:30 / 5:40 / 7:50 / 10:00
GARFIELD
12:20 / 2:30 / 4:20
THE FAST & THE FURIOUS 3
1:00 / 3:15 / 5:30 / 7:45 / 10:00
SUPERMAN RETURNS
10:50 / 11:30 / 12:05 / 12:30 / 12:50
1:10 / 2:00 / 2:40 / 3:15 / 3:40 / 4:00
4:20 / 5:10 / 5:50 / 6:25 / 6:50 / 7:10
7:30 / 8:20 / 9:00 / 9:35 / 10:00 / 10:20
Globe PLATINUM CINEMA
SUPERMAN RETURNS
11:40 / 2:50 / 6:00 / 9:10

ALIMALL CINEMAS
1 SUPERMAN RETURNS
12:15 / 3:10 / 6:05 / 9:00
2 SUPERMAN RETURNS
12:00 R2 / 2:35 / 5:30 / 8:25
SUPERMAN RETURNS
12:05 R4 / 2:00 / 4:55 / 7:50
4 THE NUN
12:10 / 1:55 / 3:40 / 5:25 / 7:10 / 8:55
SCARY MOVIE
12:05 / 1:50 / 3:35 / 5:20 / 7:05 / 9:00
LOG ON TO WWW.ARANETACENTER.NET FOR MORE DETAILS OR TO SUBSCRIBE TO OUR WEEKLY E-MAIL ENTERTAINMENT UPDATES

Sun is now BIGGER and BETTER, giving you more calls and texts.

Increased Capacity



We've more than doubled our network capacity and will continue to expand our coverage.

Every year, we have been investing ₱11 billion for more cell sites with even more capacity per cell site. As a result, our network capacity will increase to 6 million subscribers by year-end from 4 million subscribers now. Everyone can enjoy faster connections, best value products and services like 24/7 Call and Text Unlimited, 24/7 Text Unlimited and Daylite Call and Text Unlimited.

Watch us get even BIGGER, when we expand to more parts of the Philippines.

With more network capacity, WE CAN GIVE YOU MUCH BETTER SERVICES.

Make that switch now!

sun CELLULAR

Better network, better value.

WHAT'S INSIDE
Yuchengco shakeout /B3
Palawan eyes P2-B medical center /B7

BUSINESS
Website: www.inq7money.net
Editor **Raul O. Marcelo** • *Assistant Editor* **Corrie S. Narisma**
Text us your feedback: inquirer biz name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart) **E-mail:** business@inquirer.com.ph

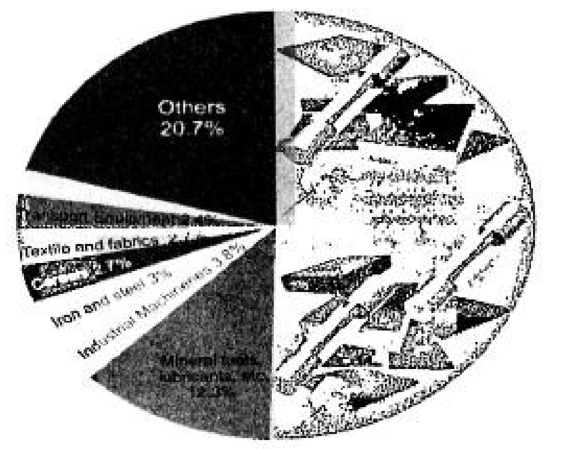
PC BUYER'S GUIDE
cyber shop
PROMO
+ MSI
LITEON
See PC Buyer's Guide magazine June-August 2006 issue Cybershops Section for details.

Imports up 7.4% in April

INQUIRER MONITOR
Figures that matter in our nation's life

Total imports up 7.4 percent to $4.42 billion
(April 2006, in US dollars)

Electronic products made up half of the total imports for April 2006, totaling $2.23 billion, a 16.9 percent growth from the $1.098-billion figure last year.



Source: National Statistics Office
Kate V. Pedroso PDI Research

Drop in manufacturing output baffles economists

By Michelle V. Remo

THE COUNTRY'S IMPORTS ROSE 7.4 PERCENT IN April to $4.42 billion as electronics firms started building up raw-material inventories to meet the increasing global demand for electronics products.

Electronics imports, accounting for about half or $2.23 billion of the total import bill in April, are mostly composed of raw materials for finished electronic products sold as exports.

According to the National Statistics Office, imports for the month brought the total for January to April to $15.59 billion, or 6.4 percent higher than the $14.81 billion in the same period last year.

With exports for the four-month period at $14.81 billion, the country's balance of trade stood at a deficit of $780 million. The latest trade-deficit figure was better than the $1.85 billion a year ago.

An official of the Semiconductor and Electronics Industry of the Philippines Inc. (Seipi) told the INQUIRER that their member-firms expected robust export sales this year given the increasing demand from Brazil, India and China. The growth in imports of raw materials was therefore necessary to cover the expected growth in global demand.

Aside from electronics, imports of textile, yarn and fabrics likewise grew by 20.7 percent to $117.74 million from $97.54 million a year ago.

The NSO said other imports for April included mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials ($541.86 million), industrial ma-

IMPORTS/ B2

Compete, don't whine, Smart tells Globe

By Daxim L. Lucas

THE PRICING DISPUTE BETWEEN the country's telecommunications giants took an ugly turn yesterday after industry leader Smart Communications Inc. taunted its rival Globe Telecom Inc. to "compete" and not to "complain."

In a press statement, Smart spokesperson Ramon Isberto said cell phone companies should focus on competing effectively through innovative services rather than filing complaints with regulators.

"With our various all-day texting promos, we have found innovative ways to meet our subscribers' demand for flat-rate SMS packages without sacrificing the quality of our network service," he said.

"That's what Globe should do, instead of filing complaints with the National Telecommunications Commission that aim to deny our subscribers the very real benefits of our 25/8 offerings," Isberto pointed out.

"The real competition is for the hearts and minds of subscribers—it's not in the legal arena. They should come up with their own services that offer real value to their subscribers. In short, compete, don't complain."

Globe Telecoms had earlier asked the NTC to issue a cease-and-desist order against the "All Day Texting 258 Call+Text Promo" of Smart and Pilipino Telephone Corp. (Piltel), claiming that these promos constituted predatory pricing.

Under the scheme, Smart and Piltel subscribers who avail themselves of the promo can send an unlimited number of text messages and make a single five-minute voice call to other Smart and Piltel subscribers in a 24-hour period for a fee of only P20.

Smart and Piltel are both market segment leaders owned by Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co., the country's biggest telecommunications group.

COMPETE/ B3

Peso closes at year's low of 53.46 to $1

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE PESO YESTERDAY DIPPED to 53.46 against the dollar, its weakest closing for this year, ahead of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas' and US Federal Reserve's separate monetary policy meetings this week.

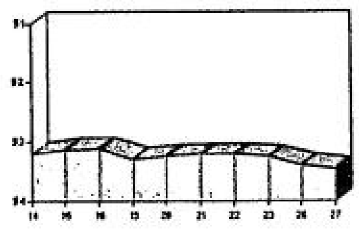
Currency traders said expectations of a quarter-percentage point increase in the Fed's rate to 5.25 percent alongside the likelihood that the BSP would keep its own overnight borrowing rate at 7.5 percent weighed down the local currency.

At the Philippine Dealing System yesterday, the local currency opened at the intra-day high of 53.42 and finished near the intra-day low of 53.47 to the dollar. Volume traded amounted to $331.5 million.

The closing rate of 53.46 was the peso's weakest since hitting

PESO/ B3

CURRENCIES



JUNE

PESO-DOLLAR RATE

P 53.46 = $ 1
As of 5 p.m., June 27, 2006

¥ 116.23 = $ 1
As of 5 p.m., June 27, 2006

GOLD: $590.00-590.50
per ounce Hong Kong, June 27, 2006

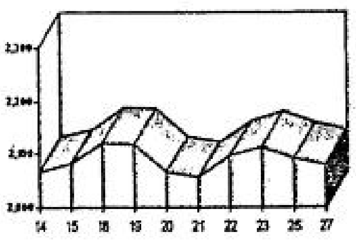
STOCK MARKET

Shares continue to weaken

SHARE PRICES CLOSED 0.54-PERCENT LOWER yesterday, extending losses as investors stayed on the sidelines waiting for an expected US interest rate increase later this week, dealers said.

They said there was some concern the local central bank could follow the US Federal Reserve lead and increase borrowing costs although it looks as though it will remain on

SHARES / B2



(See stock market report on Page B2)

Looking for a home loan?

ENJOY
LOWER
Interest Rates
Plus
Never go beyond 11.5% p.a.*
GUARANTEED!

With METROBANK METROHOME RATE PROTECT PLUS
you can have the flexibility of annual repricing and enjoy rates
as low as 9% p.a.** without going beyond 11.5% p.a.* for the first 5 years.
On the 6th up to the 10th year of the loan, enjoy fixed pricing at 11.5% p.a.*
So don't be nailed at a higher rate for ten years from day one.

METROHOME
Rate Protect Plus

CALL NOW!
898-8534
898-8929 • 898-9845
898-8505 • 898-9881
898-9819 • 898-8529
898-8500

*Guaranteed rate cap applicable for the first 10 years of the loan.
**Based on prevailing one year market rate. Subject to change without prior notice.
Member of the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation. Deposits insured up to P250,000 per depositor.
Over 800 domestic and international branches, offices and subsidiaries. Head office: Metrobank Plaza, Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City.
www.metrobank.com.ph

You're in good hands with
METROBANK

Imports up 7.4% . . .

From page B1

chinery and equipment ($167.79 million), iron and steel ($132.46 million), cereals and cereal preparations ($119.62 million), transport equipment ($108.01 million), plastics ($86.23 million), chemicals ($81.87 million), and telecommunication equipment and electrical machinery ($63.86 million).

The biggest source of imports for April was the United States, accounting for 18.1 percent or $801.1 million of the total import bill.

Other top sources of imports were Japan ($594.42 million), Taiwan ($375.06 million), Singapore ($357.23 million), China ($340.97 million), Korea ($287.5 million), Saudi Arabia ($234.28 million), Hong Kong ($198.07 million), Malaysia ($157.67 million), and Thailand ($153.8 million).

As imports grew, however, manufacturing output, as measured by the volume of production index (VoPI), registered a year-on-year drop of 13.9 percent in April, the NSO also reported yesterday.

The decline in the volume of production by manufacturing firms caught government economists by surprise, given that exports have started to pick up and seen to post better-than-target growth this year.

Dennis Arroyo, director for policy and planning at the National Economic and Development Authority (Neda), told the INQUIRER that the reported decline in the level of production was something that needed to be further analyzed.

He noted that the production decline in April, which followed a 7.8-percent drop in March, was not consistent with the rosy picture for exports. Exports in the January-to-April period were up 15.2 percent at $14.75 billion.

Victor Abola, an economist at the University of Asia and the Pacific, surmised that the year-on-year decline in the volume of production by the manufacturing sector had to do with the Lenten break that fell in the month of April. He noted that last year, Holy week was observed in March.

Shares continue . . .

From page B1

hold for the time being.

Political tensions surrounding President Macapagal-Arroyo, who faces a second impeachment attempt, added to the negative tone.

The composite index lost 11.31 points to 2,081.09, after trading between 2,075.81 and 2,094.67. Turnover was thin at 508.56 million shares worth P769.96 million.

Losers led gainers 41 to 25, with 48 stocks unchanged.

"Investors prefer to stay out of the market. They would rather be elsewhere," said Nestor Aguila of DA Market Securities.

He said equity prices could fall further if yields of fixed-income assets continue to rise.

Treasury bill rates rose sharply at Monday's auction and dealers said this prompted investors to shift their funds to fixed-income assets.

The 91-day T-bill average rate, which banks use in pricing loans, rose to 6.50 percent from 5.0 percent the previous week.

Meanwhile, Aguila said bouts of bargain-hunting were seen in some stocks such as the banks which have fallen sharply as investors worried about anemic loan growth should interest rates increase. *AFP*

TRAVEL WHEELCHAIR

MINI-BOB TRAVEL WHEELCHAIR
- So small it could fit in a bag
- So light it can be brought anywhere
- Will fit in the aisle of the airplane
- Ideal for travel anywhere around the world

FAR EAST MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

SM MALL of ASIA 2nd Flr. South Parking 556-0207
SM MEGAMALL 5th Flr., Bldg. A 635-0436
SM NORTH EDSA Car Park Plaza 453-3326
CEBU 417-8286
SM FAIRVIEW Basement 418-7540
ROBINSONS GALLERIA Basement 635-5061
VIRRA MALL Greenhills, San Juan, Bridgeway fronting Concorde

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of June 27, 2006)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
FINANCIAL					
BANKS					
Asiatrust Dev. Bank Inc.	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.2	20,000
Banco de Oro Univ. Bank	31	31.5	31	31	186,100
Bank of the Phil. Islands	46	47	45 5	47	1,463,600
China Banking Corp.	865	865	860	860	470
Citystate Savings Bank	20.5	20.5	20.5	20.5	600
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	71	72	71	72	121,600
International Exch. Bank	41	41	41	41	3,000
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	31	31.5	30.5	31	490,000
Philippine National Bank	33.5	33.5	33	33.5	45,700
Phil. Savings Bank	39	39	39	39	7,700
Rizal Comm. Banking Corp.	17.5	17.75	17.5	17.75	6,600
Security Bank Corp.	41.5	42.5	41 5	42	234,800
OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS					
First Metro Invest. Corp.	31	31	31	31	10,000
PCI Leasing & Fin. Inc.	0.99	0.99	0.99	0.99	170,000
Phil. Stock Exchange Inc.	210	210	210	210	1,000
Ivantage Corp.	1.2	1 22	1.2	1.22	270,000
INDUSTRIAL					
ELECTRICITY, ENERGY, POWER & WATER					
First Gen Corp.	42	42	41.5	41.5	210,700
First Phil Hldgs Corp.	43	43	42.5	42.5	228,500
Manila Electric Co. A	14	14.25	14	14	12,000
Manila Electric Co. B	21	21	21	21	395,700
Manila Water Co. Inc.	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.1	1,438,000
Petron Corp.	3.55	3.6	3.5	3.55	1,901,000
Trans-Asia Oil and Energy	0 93	0.94	0 93	0.94	300,000
FOOD, BEVERAGE & TOBACCO					
CADP Group Corp.	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	20,000
Ginebra San Miguel Inc.	22.75	22.75	22.75	22.75	37,400
Jollibee Foods Corp.	30.5	31	30.5	31	183,500
Pancake House Inc.	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.6	100,000
Roxas Holdings Inc.	2.6	2.65	2.6	2.65	55,000
San Miguel Corp. A	64.5	65	64.5	65	60,500
San Miguel Corp. B	71	72.5	70	72.5	130,100
Universal Robina Corp.	17.75	18 25	17.75	18	3,572,800
Vitarich Corp.	0 21	0 21	0 21	0.21	200,000
CONSTRUCTION, INFRASTRUCTURE & ALLIED SERVICES					
Engineering Equip. Inc.	1.32	1.32	1.32	1.32	602,000
Holcim Philippines Inc.	4.35	4.35	4.35	4.35	1,002,000
Republic Cement Corp.	1.26	1 26	1.26	1.26	70,000
CHEMICALS					
Mabuhay Vinyl Corp.	0.61	0 61	0.61	0.61	10,000
DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS					
Global Equities, Inc.	0.0725	0.075	0.0725	0.0725	31,400,000
Steniel Manufacturing	0.25	0 26	0.25	0.26	70,000
HOLDING FIRMS					
Ayala Corp.	337.5	340	337.5	337.5	52,180
Aboitiz Equity Ventures	5.1	5.2	5.1	5.1	6,212,000
Ajo.Net Holdings Inc.	0.023	0.023	0.023	0.023	1,000,000
A. Soriano Corp.	1.78	1.78	1.7	1.72	831,000
Alcorn Gold Res. Corp.	0.007	0.007	0.007	0.007	12,000,000
Anglo Phil Holdings Corp.	1.04	1.08	1.02	1.02	1,581,000
Baguio Gold Holdings Corp.	1.38	1.38	1.38	1.38	2,000
Benpres Holdings Corp.	0.99	0.99	0.99	0.99	1,610,000
DMCI Holdings Inc.	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.5	455,000
House of Investments Inc.	1.18	1.18	1.16	1.16	25,000
J.G. Summit Holdings Inc.	5.5	5.6	5.5	5.6	148,000
Prime Orion Phils. Inc.	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	1,000,000
Solid Group Inc.	0.52	0.52	0.52	0.52	50,000
SM Investments Corp.	212	212	211	212	11,860
South China Resources Inc.	0.76	0.76	0.76	0.76	20,000
Wellex Industries, Inc.	0.09	0 09	0.09	0.09	1,000,000
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	11	11	11	11	3,685,000
Belle Corp.	1.02	1.02	1.02	1.02	1,425,000
Crown Equities Inc.	0.27	0.27	0 25	0.25	410,000
Cebu Holdings Inc.	1.88	1.88	1.88	1.88	311,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.185	0.185	0.185	0.185	200,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.57	0.57	0.56	0.57	3,520,000
Edsa Prop. Holdings Inc.	0.76	0.76	0.76	0.76	10,000
Ever-Gotesco Resources	0.031	0.035	0.031	0.035	3,500,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	1.26	1.26	1.22	1.24	6,068,000
Kuok Phil. Properties	0.205	0.205	0.205	0 205	10,000
Marsteel Cons. Inc. A	0.014	0.014	0.014	0.014	1,000,000
Marsteel Cons. Inc. B	0.015	0.015	0.015	0.015	1,800,000
Megaworld Corp.	1.38	1.38	1.34	1.36	9,868,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0 21	0.22	0.21	0.22	3,540,000
MRC Allied Ind. Inc.	0.215	0 215	0.215	0.215	100,000
Primex Corp.	3.65	3.65	3.65	3.65	50,000
Robinsons Land Corp.	9.8	9.9	9 8	9.8	250,000
Phil Realty and Holdings	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26	50,000
SM Development Corp.	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	160,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	7.4	7.5	7.4	7.4	1,582,000
MEDIA					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	14	14 25	14	14	16,000
TELECOMMUNICATIONS					
Digital Telecom Phils Inc.	1.24	1.24	1.22	1.22	706,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	905	905	900	900	21,410
Pilipino Tel. Corp.	3.35	3 35	3.3	3.35	502,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	1770	1785	1745	1745	148,190
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY					
Boulevard Holdings, Inc.	0.175	0.175	0.175	0.175	500,000
Imperial Res.	0.011	0.011	0.011	0.011	200,000
Ionics Inc.	2.1	2.16	2.1	2.16	370,000
Island Info and Tech Inc.	0.042	0.042	0.042	0.042	500,000
Music Semiconductors Corp.	1.16	1.16	1.16	1.16	90,000
Philweb Corp.	0 03	0 03	0 029	0.03	69,000,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	13.25	13.25	13.25	13.25	21,000
Lorenzo Shipping Corp.	1.32	1.32	1.32	1.32	50,000
HOTEL & LEISURE					
Waterfront Phils. Inc.	0.59	0 59	0.57	0.57	460,000
EDUCATION					
Ipeople Inc.	3.15	3 15	3.05	3.05	26,000
DIVERSIFIED SERVICES					
Macroasia Corp.	1.94	1.96	1.9	1.94	250,000
Paxys Inc.	9.8	9 8	9.8	9.8	91,000
MINING					
Abra Mining & Industrial	0.0075	0.0075	0.0075	0.0075	10,000,000
Atlas Cons. Min & Dev't	8	8	7.6	7.6	3,555,000
Lepanto Cons Mng. Co. A	0.28	0.29	0.28	0.28	4,370,000
Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co B	0.34	0.34	0.32	0.32	6,920,000
Manila Mining Corp. A	0.022	0.022	0.022	0.022	11,000,000
Manila Mining Corp. B	0.024	0.024	0.023	0.023	12,000,000
Omico Corp.	0.008	0.008	0.008	0.008	48,000,000
Philex Mining Corp. A	3.9	3.95	3.8	3.9	5,889,000
Philex Mining Corp. B	3.95	3.95	3.85	3.95	7,594,000
Semirara Mining Corp.	28.5	28.5	28	28.5	71,200
United Paragon Mining Co.	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.36	70,000
Vulcan Ind'l	0.57	0.57	0.57	0.57	50,000
OIL					
Basic Consolidated, Inc.	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	1,250,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. A	0.0095	0.01	0.0095	0.0095	191,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. B	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	23,000,000
The Philodrill Corp. A	1.2	1.26	1.18	1.18	1,054,000
The Philodrill Corp. B	1.22	1.28	1.2	1.2	427,000
Petroenergy Res. Corp.	18	18	17.25	17.5	163,700
PREFERRED					
PLDT (10% Pref) Series T	10.5	10 5	10.5	10.5	100
PLDT (10% Pref) Series V	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	1,200
PLDT (10% Pref) Series W	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	2,600
PLDT 10% Pref Series Aa	10 5	10 5	10 5	10.5	1,500
WARRANTS, PHIL. DEPOSIT RECEIPTS, ETC.					
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp.(Pdr)	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	40,000

CURRENCIES

June 27, 2006 Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Dollar Equivalent	Peso Equivalent
United States	Dollar	0.794849	1.000000	53.3850
Japan	Yen	0.006837	0.008602	0.4592
United Kingdom	Pound	1.449646	1.823800	97.3636
Hong Kong	Dollar	0.102323	0.128733	6.8724
Switzerland	Franc	0.639614	0.804699	42.9589
Canada	Dollar	0.707980	0.890710	47.5506
Singapore	Dollar	0.497278	0.625626	33.3990
Australia	Dollar	0.579506	0.729076	38.9217
Bahrain	Dinar*	2.109417	2.653857	141.6762
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.211937	0.266638	14.2345
Brunei	Dollar	0.495728	0.623675	33.2949
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000084	0.000106	0.0057
Thailand	Baht	0.020648	0.025977	1.3868
UAE	Dirham	0.216427	0.272287	14.5360
Euro	Euro	1.000000	1.258100	67.1637
Argentina	Peso	0.258068	0.324675	17.3328
Brazil	Real	0.356802	0.448893	23.9642
Denmark	Kroner	0.134124	0.168742	9.0083
India	Rupee	0.017197	0.021636	1.1550
Malaysia	Ringgit	0.215698	0.271370	14.4871
Mexico	New Peso	0.069250	0.087123	4.6511
New Zealand	Dollar	0.479374	0.603100	32.1965
Norway	Kroner	0.126232	0.158813	8.4782
Pakistan	Rupee	0.013202	0.016610	0.8867
South Africa	Rand	0.107659	0.135446	7.2308
Korea	Won	0.000828	0.001042	0.0556
Sweden	Kroner	0.108562	0.136582	7.2914
Syria	Pound	0.015312	0.019264	1.0284
Taiwan	Nt Dollar	0.024296	0.030567	1.6318
Venezuela	Bolivar	0.000370	0.000466	0.0249

CHRYSLER
INSPIRATION COMES STANDARD

LET ENGINE COOL BEFORE KISSING.

CHRYSLER 300C. THE HIGH LIFE IN PERFORMANCE AND STYLE.

PAMPERS PASSENGERS. FLOORS EVERYONE ELSE.

- 5.7 HEMI® V8 engine with 340 hp and 390 lb-ft of torque
- Multi-Displacement System
- Electronic Stability Program with Traction Control
- High-Intensity Discharge Headlamps

3 YEAR WARRANTY
Or 100,000kms - whichever comes first.

Test-drive the CHRYSLER 300C today. Only at Chrysler Greenhills.

Also available: 3.5L V6 SOHC engine with 250 hp and 250 lb-ft of torque.

CHRYSLER GREENHILLS 1008 EDSA Greenhills, San Juan 1502, Metro Manila TEL.. (632) 723 5808 FAX: (632) 726 7741 MOBILE: (0917) 800 2862 EMAIL: chryslergroup@cats.com.ph WEBSITE. www.chrysler.com.ph

Yuchengco shakeout

TAIPAN DAUGHTER YVONNE YUCHENGCO has abruptly resigned her directorship from the family holding company, House of Investments, without giving any reason.

Likewise, House of Investments chose not to explain why Yuchengco, 52, on Monday left the holding firm now chaired by her eldest sister, Helen Y. Dee. In addition to Dee, 61, another sister, Susanne Y. Santos, 58, sits on the board, along with their 83-year-old father, former Ambassador Alfonso Yuchengco.

Yvonne, ironically, was among those whose names were submitted just last week for reelection in next month's shareholders' meeting.

According to the grapevine, Helen and her father wanted to add another independent director in the holding company, in view of the seemingly intractable problems caused by the collapse of their pre-need subsidiary.

Yvonne's resignation comes in the wake of the resignation in March from all the Yuchengco corporations of lawyer Guia Margarita Santos Qua, daughter of Susanne, who will relocate to Italy.

A Yuchengco spokesperson clarified that Yvonne will still continue to work for the other family corporations in various capacities.

On the RCBC front, the bank board on Monday also revised its bylaws by making the CEO, instead of the chairperson, the presiding officer of the bank.

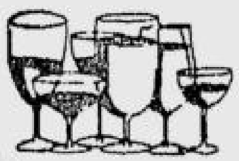
The chief executive officer, which has the rank of vice chair, happens to be former Trade and Industry Secretary Rizalino Navarro, while the chair and his boss is none other than Helen Dee.

In the meantime, the patriarch, though officially retired, still sits as honorary chair of the Rizal Commercial Banking Corp.

Broadsheets' diminishing returns

MANILA Bulletin, the only publicly listed Philippine newspaper, has just released its 2005 financial statements, which confirm the worldwide trend that even local broadsheets, the INQUIRER included, have been suffering diminishing returns because of 24/7 news channels and the Internet.

COCKTALES



Victor C. Agustin

Despite folding in the Balita tabloid and the Liwayway magazine last year, the Bulletin's earnings per share still dropped to P0.1215 from P0.14 in 2004.

Expressed in percentage of net profit to stockholders' equity, the ratio dropped to 10.3 percent in 2005, from 10.87 percent in 2004, and 12.07 percent in 2003.

In other words, the broadsheet's profit margin is getting thinner. Same trend with INQUIRER's, whose financial ratios we cannot disclose.

Money-go-round

- NEW Zealand Milk, which has been acquired by San Miguel Corp. through Fonterra, has decided not to invite its present ad agency, Basic Foote Cone & Belding, for the rebidding of its estimated P50-million annual advertising account.
- BENIGNO Fitial, governor of Northern Mariana Islands, is in the country for a private visit, following his marriage to a Filipina earlier this month.

Heard through the grapevine

EQUITABLE PCIBANK director Ferdinand Martin Romualdez, who is making a comeback, will not be returned to the vice chairmanship of the bank in tomorrow's board meeting, after another private meeting between SM heiress Teresita Sy and Romualdez, accompanied by his adviser Macario Te, failed to produce any business settlement.

(Email: cocktales_pdi@pldtdsl.net or cocktales_pdi@yahoo.com)

Peso closes at year's low of 53.46 to $1

From page B1

53.53:$1 on Dec. 20 last year.

But some traders suspected that the BSP was unloading dollars near the intra-day lows to stem the local currency's depreciation.

"The market is cautious ahead of the monetary meetings plus there are month-end requirements pushing up demand for the greenback," one trader said.

Banco de Oro Universal Bank chief strategist Jonathan Ravelas said the next key market barrier would be at 53.50, which if breached, would test 53.85 against the dollar.

"Despite the current pressures, we think that the peso downside will be limited to 54 and that it will recover toward the end of the year," Ravelas said.

"Inflows from stronger exports will help the peso, and the country is still in better shape to face the challenges ahead. For instance, the government is expected to keep its fiscal deficit below the full-year target of P125 billion," he said.

This developed as a top BSP official said the local monetary institution, which will meet for its monthly policy rate-setting on Thursday, would not necessarily match another expected increase in the US Fed rate this week but would closely monitor investors' perception of the risks in emerging markets.

In general, higher interest rates in the United States were making emerging market assets less attractive to offshore investors, thus causing a shift in fund flow.

The BSP has kept its overnight rates steady since October last year while the US Fed is expected to raise its rates for the 17th consecutive session over the last two years. But while another rate adjustment is seen possible by August, some global analysts expect the US Fed rate to peak at 5.25 percent.

its time to be
webReady!
Your complete **Website Building, Maintenance & Hosting Solution** for as low as **P880/month***

Everything you need in one affordable package
✓ Website up immediately
✓ Free user training
✓ Hundred of templates available
✓ Powerful features
✓ Update pages anytime
✓ Free domain registration and e-mail addresses
✓ Website performance report

*Plus onetime setup fee Prices subject to VAT

Text - itell <space> webready<space> your name and contactnumber.
And send to 2975 for Globe and Sun and 283 for Smart

Visit - http://webready.mindgate.net
E-mail - webready@mindgate.net
Call - (632) 638-33-91 or 637-22-57

INNOVIA
a division of Mindgate Systems, Inc.

Compete . . .

From page B1

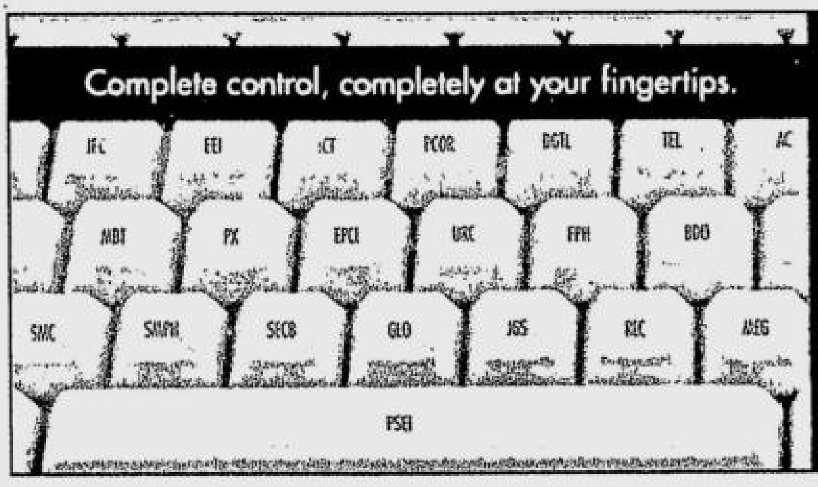
Globe Telecom, on the other hand, is its closest rival and has seen a resurgence in its business this year amid sluggish revenue growth in the industry.

Isberto said the legal issues were being tackled by the firm's lawyers.

"What is undeniable is the fact that our 25/8 promos genuinely benefit our over 21 million subscribers," he said. "To stop the promos would do them a great disservice."

A cease-and-desist order would also run counter to the National Telecommunications Commission's recent rulings in favor of consumer benefit.

In its ruling on Sun Cellular's 24/7 program last year, NTC had said that the popularity of unlimited call and text program "reflects the appreciation that consumers have options that enable them to shop for and choose the price-quality package that might best suit their needs."



Take charge of your portfolio.
Do your own trading—online.

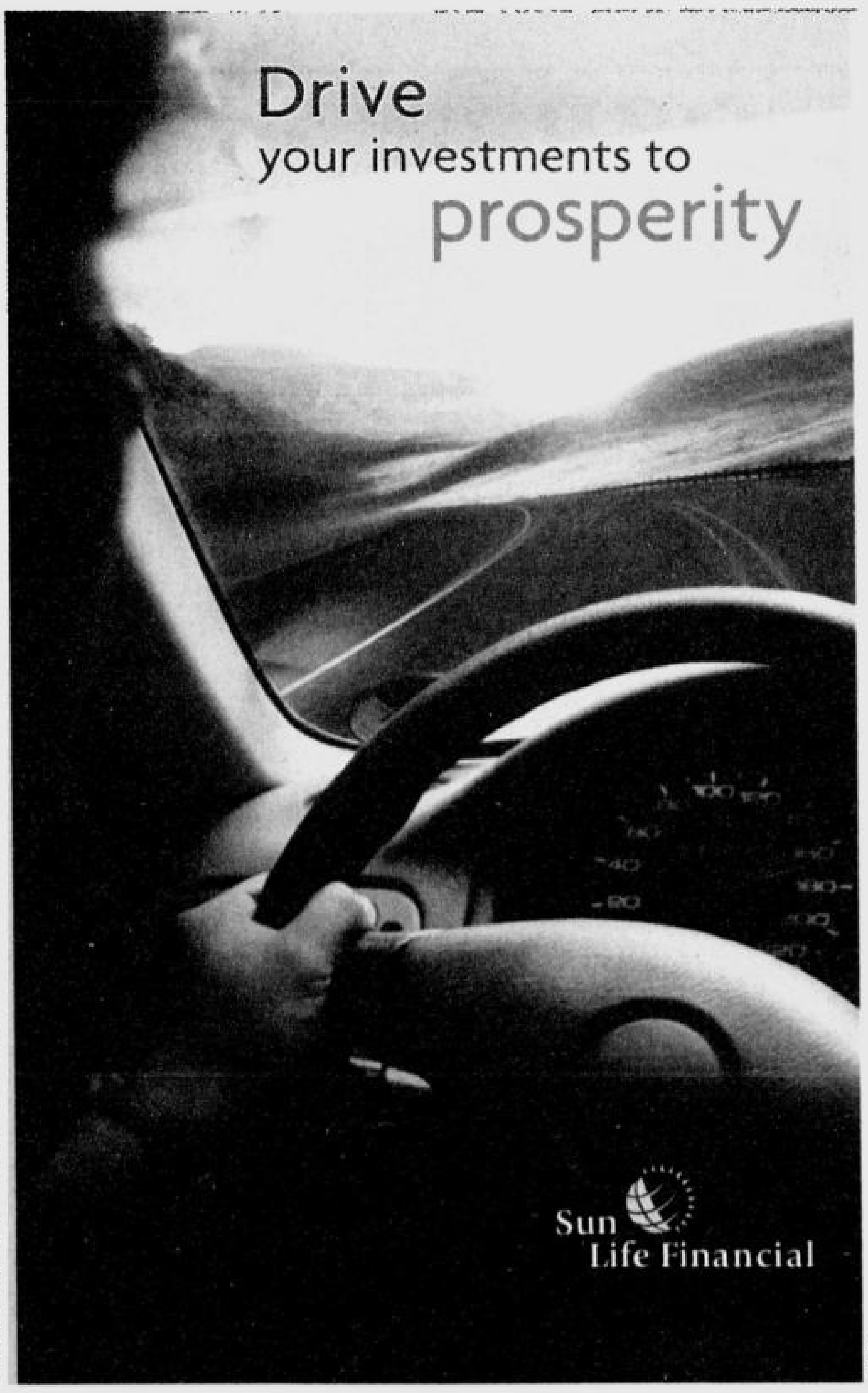
Get your free 7-day trial password and sign up for a free seminar.

Log on today.

www.citiseconline.com

CITISECONLINE

For more information, please call 6-333-777



...and accelerate
at the speed you want!

With the Sun Life Prosperity Funds, the path to prosperity is easy. Choose from any of seven mutual funds* – each cut out to suit the investor's desire for growth as well as his tolerance for risk.

The Sun Life Prosperity Funds is the biggest family of mutual funds in the Philippines. It is backed by the investment management and wealth accumulation expertise that Sun Life Financial is known for all over the world.

**Mutual Funds are investment companies that pool money from numerous investors and issue corresponding shares to them. The pooled funds are invested by professional fund managers according to the investment objectives and policies of the company.*

Are you a match for any of these four Sun Life Prosperity Funds?

PROSPERITY FUND	INVESTMENT TIME HORIZON	RISK TOLERANCE	JAN-MAY. 2006*	NET RETURNS*		
				2003	2004	2005
BOND	Medium Term	Low to Moderate	3.8%	8.4%	7.9%	11.1%
BALANCED	Medium to Long Term	Moderate	13.4%	31.5%	19.1%	10.0%
PHILIPPINE EQUITY	Long Term	Moderate to High	15.2%	39.8%	20.2%	11.3%
MONEY MARKET**	Short Term	Low	1.8%	N.A.	4.1%	4.9%

Based on NAVPS.

* Rates of return net of tax, exclusive of sales loads, of the Sun Life Prosperity Funds during the periods indicated.
Please note that these only indicate fund performance over the given periods and do not necessarily indicate future returns
**Money Market was launched only in 2003.

For FREE expert financial advice, call 849-9888.
In the provinces, call PLDT toll free numbers 1-800-10-sunlife.

Managed and distributed by:
Sun Life Asset Management Company, Inc.
15/F Tower II, The Enterprise Center
6766 Ayala Avenue, Makati City, Philippines
E-mail: sunlink@sunlife.com
Visit www.sunlifefunds.com

SUN LIFE PROSPERITY FUNDS
Investing made easy.

Important information about the Sun Life Prosperity Funds is contained in their prospectuses. Please obtain copies from your Sun Life Mutual Fund Representative and read them carefully before investing. Share value and investment returns will fluctuate. Sun Life Financial in the Philippines is represented by Sun Life of Canada (Philippines), Inc., offering life insurance products; Sun Life Asset Management Company, Inc., manager and distributor of the Sun Life Prosperity Funds, and **Sun Life Financial Plans, Inc., offering pension and education plans.**

MetroHome Rate Protect Plus offers superior benefits to borrowers

HOUSING loan borrowers, rejoice! Metrobank, the country's leading bank in resources offers a unique housing loan package that offers even better interest rate protection plus repricing flexibility with the MetroHome Rate Protect Plus.

MetroHome Rate Protect Plus provides a guaranteed maximum interest of 11.5% p.a. on housing loans with terms of 10 years or more to protect borrowers from sudden rate increases that always upset the household budget. This rate cap enhances a loan package that already offers one of the lowest interest rates in the market today.

Metrobank consumer lending group head Rowena R. Oliveros said, "The MetroHome Rate Protect Plus offers borrowers a distinct advantage over the usual longer term, fixed pricing of other banks. They can take advantage of market rates - as low as 9% p.a. during the first five years of the loan. Plus, the interest rate is guaranteed not to exceed 11.5% p.a. for 10 years."

Unlike similar programs that offer fixed interest rates, MetroHome Rate Protect Plus is unique because it allows borrowers the flexibility of annual repricing during the first five years of the loan with a rate cap guarantee. "Borrowers have the opportunity of paying less interest at the time when the outstanding balance is still high and therefore interest payments are heavier," explains Oliveros.

On the 6th to the 10th year, the loan carries a fixed rate of 11.5% p.a. "By fixing the interest rate on the 6th year onwards, borrowers are spared the surprises of rate surges when they are nearing repayment," adds Oliveros.

MetroHome Rate Protect Plus may be used to purchase a residential lot, a house and lot, townhouse or condominium; or to reimburse expenses incurred for property purchased in cash. It may also be used to refinance an existing home loan. MetroHome Rate Protect Plus is available only for housing loans with terms of ten years or more.

For more details on MetroHome Rate Protect Plus, please contact the Metrobank Home Financing Division at 898-8534, or visit any Metrobank branch. You may also log on to www.metrobank.com.ph.

METROHOME Rate Protect Plus
You're in good hands with METROBANK

AEDC presses bid for control of Naia-3

Firms ready to sue gov't if it insists on operating facility, says Yasay

By Daxim L. Lucas

LUCIO TAN-OWNED ASIA'S EMERGING Dragon Corp. (AEDC) is renewing its push for control of Terminal 3 of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (Naia), with its representative saying the firm stands ready to sue the government if it insists on operating the controversial facility.

In a statement, AEDC lead counsel and spokesperson Perfecto Yasay Jr. said his client was observing recent developments with interest, especially since the government's moves allegedly erode its bargaining position vis-à-vis the terminal's builders.

"If they decide to operate the terminal, then it is close to saying that they are going to bid out the operations to a third party. They will bid out the stalls and others, so we will definitely seek legal action," Yasay added.

Yasay—a former chair of the Securities and Exchange Commission—said AEDC was "committed" to the Naia-3 project, adding that the company was willing to pay the facility's original builder if the government would give AEDC the right to operate it.

The Terminal 3 project was proposed by AEDC in the mid-1990s but lost it to Philippine International Air Terminal Co. (Piatco) of the Cheng family and partner German airport operator Fraport AG which submitted what was deemed as a better offer.

The Supreme Court voided the deal in late 2004 for being disadvantageous to the state.

In his statement, Yasay stressed that AEDC was in favor of the terminal's immediate opening as soon as it was declared safe and structurally sound.

In the meantime, lawyer Jose Bernas, who represents Ilocos Sur Rep. Salacnib Baterina, said in a telephone interview that the government might lose more money if it insisted on pursuing its current legal tack vis-à-vis the terminal's builders.

"Right now, we are talking about only $320 million, which is the fixed amount that needs to be paid to Piatco," he said. "But if the government insists on the expropriation case, it will have to pay them at fair market value."

The lawyer—whose position jibes with that of the Lucio Tan firm—said that fair market value for the facility would surely be worth more now than what Piatco initially spent for its construction in the late 1990s.

7-year T-bond rate up 62.5 bps

By Michelle V. Remo

THE 7-YEAR TREASURY BOND RATE YESTERDAY rose 62.5 basis points to 9.625 percent from the 9 percent recorded in the last auction held in January.

Fiscal authorities found the increase tolerable given the huge volume of bids for the T-bonds.

National Treasurer Omar Cruz said the new rate was, however, lower than the prevailing rates in the secondary market which range from 10.3 to 10.8 percent.

"This indicates that the market has regained composure and confidence in the government's fiscal standing," Cruz said in a press briefing after yesterday's auction.

Banks swamped yesterday's auction for the 7-year bonds, as volume of bids reached P18.171 billion. The amount reflected an over-subscription of more than four times, with the government's borrowing plan set at only P3.5 billion.

The Bureau of the Treasury's auction committee accepted P3.5 billion worth of bids.

Cruz had said the BTr would be willing to allow increases in the rates for as long as the market was showing appetite for government securities.

"The market today is as good as it was yesterday. It is back on the buying mode," Cruz said.

Yesterday, the government sold P3.8 billion worth of Treasury bills, or more than the programmed P3 billion.

The benchmark 91-day T-bill rate rose 150 basis points to 6.5 percent, which was welcomed by the BTr given the strong appetite of the market for the offerings. Tenders for the T-bills reached P19.72 billion, much higher than the government's debt offering of only P3 billion.

Jonathan Ravelas, market strategist for Banco de Oro, said the increase in the rates of government securities was due to the adjustments made by the market. He explained that interest rates recently fell too low, as the market became overly optimistic about the government's fiscal position.

Ravelas said while the government's fiscal standing was doing well, current interest rate levels were just appropriate.

ROUND-UP

DTI's processing system

THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY yesterday said it would start implementing this year an automated system of processing applications for contractors' licenses.

Trade Undersecretary Zenaida C. Maglaya said the DTI's Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board's new system would allow applicants to submit audited financial statements electronically, thereby eliminating tedious tasks done by employees.

Through the electronic process, PCAB could automatically compute and balance a contractor's total assets and liabilities, and build a database of construction related information.

Ronnel W. Domingo

Customs to hit target

THE BUREAU OF CUSTOMS SAID IT COULD easily exceed its P18-billion collection target for June, an official yesterday said.

Customs Commissioner Napoleon L. Morales said the Reformed Value Added Tax (R-VAT) would keep the agency on course to achieving its target for the year.

As of May, actual collections hit P17.608 billion, higher than its target of P16.516 billion.

Christine A. Gaylican

Briefing for small investors

THE PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE AND FIRST Metro Investment Corp. will conduct a free briefing for small investors and trading participants about the prospects of the property sector at 2 p.m. on June 29 at the PSE Center, Ortigas, Pasig City.

PSE president and CEO Francis Lim said briefing participants would also get an update on PSE's plan to introduce real estate investment trusts (REITs), a property-based investment now gaining increasing attention in markets overseas.

The PSE and FMIC have invited several experts to share their insights about the property sector and REIT during the briefing.

Participants will be accommodated on a first-come, first-served basis.

P&A's taxation book

PUNONGBAYAN & ARAULLO (P&A) HAS PUBlished a book entitled Taxation of Financial Institutions in the Philippines.

Authored by tax advisory and compliance partner Benedicta Du-Baladad, the book will be launched on June 28, 4:30 p.m. at Bocarinos, New World Renaissance Hotel Makati, with Internal Revenue Commissioner Mario Buñag as guest of honor.

The book is a comprehensive guide on the tax theories and practices governing the financial services sector. It aims to provide readers with a better understanding of the way financial institutions and their products are taxed.

SGS' new lab

SGS PHILIPPINES INC., AN AFFILIATE OF THE Geneva-based SGS Group, will formally launch its new central laboratory in the country on June 29.

SGS Philippines has been providing risk management and quality assurance services in the country since 1949 as a representative agent of the SGS and as a branch global network in 1978.

REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS
(Republic of the Philippines)
TANGGAPAN NG PANGULO
(Office of the President)
TANGGAPAN NG SWEEPSTAKES PANGKAWANGGAWA NG PILIPINAS
PHILIPPINE CHARITY SWEEPSTAKES OFFICES
PCSO Complex, E. Rodriguez Sr. Ave., Q.C., Philippines P.O. Box 141

Invitation to Apply for Eligibility and to Bid

Supply & Delivery of New PCSO Instant Sweepstakes Tickets

1. The Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO) intends to apply the sum of Forty Million Pesos (Php 40,000,000.00) that serves as the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) of the project. Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at Bid opening.
2. The PCSO now invites Bids from eligible suppliers for the supply and delivery of 50,000,000 Shares of New PCSO Instant Sweepstakes Tickets including promotional advertising and distribution of tickets, local custom duties & taxes, broker's charges & other fees due to the Government. Delivery of GOODS shall be for a period of 100 calendar days from receipt of signed contract, executed working papers and executed letter of credit. The description of an eligible Bidder is contained in Section II of the Bidding Documents, ITB.
3. The procurement will be conducted through open competitive procedures specified under the Implementing Rules and Regulations Part A (IRR-A) of Republic Act 9184 (R.A. 9184), otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act," using non-discretionary pass/fail criteria as specified in the said law. Only Bids from Bidders who pass the eligibility check will be opened. The process for the eligibility check is described in Section II of the Bidding Documents, Instruction to Bidders (ITB). The bidder with the Lowest Calculated Bid (LCB) shall advance to the post-qualification stage in order to finally determine responsiveness of the bid to technical and financial requirements of the project. The contract shall then be awarded to the Lowest Calculated and Responsive Bidder (LCRB) who was determined as such during the post-qualification procedure.
4. Interested Bidders may obtain further information from *BAC Secretariat* and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below from *8:00 a.m. to 5:00 pm.*
5. A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidders from the address below and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee in the amount of *Ten Thousand Pesos (P10,000.00)* in **CASH**. *The date of issuance of Bid Documents will be from* ***June 21, 2006*** *until* ***July 4, 2006***. The Bidding Documents shall be received personally by the prospective Bidder or his authorized representative.
6. The PCSO will hold a Pre-Bid Conference open to all interested parties on ***July 11, 2006*** at ***9:30 a.m.*** at the *PCSO Executive Lounge, 4th floor Main Building, PCSO Complex, E. Rodriguez Avenue, Quezon City.*
7. All Bids and eligibility requirements must be submitted and will be accepted at the address below **on or before** ***10:00 a.m. of July 24, 2006***. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid security, with the following schedule: (Late Bids shall not be accepted).

Form of Security	Minimum Amount in % of Approved Budget for the Contract to be Bid
1. Cash, certified check, cashier's check, managers check, bank draft or irrevocable letter of credit	One percent (1%) or Php 400,000.00
2. Bank guarantee	One and a half percent (1 1/2%) or Php 600,000.00

8. Bid opening shall be on ***July 24, 2006 at 10:30 a.m.*** at the ***PCSO Executive Lounge, 4th floor Main Building, PCSO Complex, E. Rodriguez Avenue, Quezon City.*** Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives who choose to attend.
9. PCSO reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all Bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

Note The abovementioned time shall be based on the clock located at the Executive Lounge, 4th Floor, Main Building, PCSO Complex, E. Rodriguez Avenue, Quezon City.

HON. ROSARIO C. URIARTE
Vice-Chairman and General Manager
Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO)
3rd Floor, Office of the GM
PCSO Complex, E. Rodriguez Avenue, Quezon City

ROSARIO C. URIARTE

(PDI – June 22 & 28, 2006)

---

acer
IBM
ASUS
intel
hp
Office Standard Edition 2003
Windows Professional
Windows Home Edition

We preinstall genuine Windows® software.

Microsoft Office Standard Edition

Windows XP Professional Edition

Windows XP Home Edition

Visit us for cost- effective business solutions

cti COLUMBIA TECHNOLOGIES, INC.
"Your Systems Solutions Partner"

1136-1146 J. Nakpil St.
Malate II Manila 1004 Philippines
Tel.(632) 524-0393
www.cti-phil.com

Microsoft CERTIFIED Partner
OEM Hardware Solutions

DBP Development Bank of the Philippines

INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY AND TO BID

The Development Bank of the Philippines ("DBP"), through its Special Bids and Awards Committee ("SBAC"), hereby issues this Invitation to interested parties to apply for pre-qualification and to bid for the purchase and assumption of DBP's rights, title, interest and obligations on Assets included in a Portfolio of Non-Performing Assets with total Gross Book Value ("GBV") of approximately Eleven Billion Pesos (PhP11,000,000,000.00) (the "Transaction").

The Portfolio of Non-Performing Assets will be sold through a sealed-bid public auction process. All interested parties may obtain the detailed Auction Announcement and Registration Package within the period June 26 to 30, 2006 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. from and at the following address:

THE SECRETARIAT
SPECIAL BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE
Sealed-Bid Public Auction of DBP's Portfolio of Non-Performing Assets
Asset Management Department
Ground Floor, DBP Building
Development Bank of the Philippines
Sen. Gil J. Puyat Avenue corner Makati Avenue
Makati City, Philippines 1200

Interested parties are required (a) to submit the required Registration Documents specified in the aforementioned Auction Announcement and Registration Package and (b) to pay the non-refundable Due Diligence Fee amounting to US Dollars: Ten Thousand and 00/100 (USD10,000.00) to be considered qualified to participate in the Transaction. A Qualified Bidder may subsequently be disqualified to participate in the Transaction should there be any material and/or intentional misstatement of information in the Registration Documents provided to DBP.

The Pre-Qualification Bidder Conference will be conducted at 10:00 a.m. on June 30, 2006. The said Pre-Qualification Bidder Conference will be held at Suite 5, 12th floor DBP Building. The Bidder Registration Cut-Off Date is at 12:00 noon on July 4, 2006. DBP, in its sole and absolute discretion, reserves the right to accept or decline registration documents received from any interested party after said date. Kindly note that registration documents submitted after the Bidder Registration Cut-Off Date will delay the distribution of the Investor Due Diligence Information Package to the particular potential bidder. The Investor Due Diligence period will start on July 5, 2006 and end on August 29, 2006. The bid for the Portfolio of Non-Performing Assets will be opened starting at 12:00 noon on August 30, 2006.

DBP ASSUMES NO OBLIGATION WHATSOEVER TO COMPENSATE OR INDEMNIFY ANY INTERESTED PARTY, PRE-QUALIFIED BIDDER OR WINNING BIDDER, AS THE CASE MAY BE, FOR ANY EXPENSE OR LOSS THAT SUCH PARTY(IES) MAY INCUR IN ITS PARTICIPATION IN THE PRE-QUALIFICATION AND BIDDING PROCESS.

DBP RESERVES THE RIGHT (I) TO WITHDRAW, CANCEL OR MODIFY THE TERMS OF THE TRANSACTION AT ANY TIME; (II) TO REJECT ANY OR ALL INTERESTED PARTY(IES) FROM PARTICIPATING IN THE PRE-QUALIFICATION PROCESS; (III) TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS; (IV) TO WAIVE ANY FORMALITY WITH RESPECT TO PARTICIPATION IN THE TRANSACTION; and/or (V) TO ACCEPT SUCH BID AS MAY BE CONSIDERED MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE BANK. ANY DECISION MADE BY THE BANK IS FINAL AND BINDING.

For any questions and/or additional information, please inquire as follows:

FINANCIAL ADVISOR TO DBP
for the Sealed-Bid Public Auction of DBP's Portfolio of Non-Performing Assets
c/o Asset Management Department
2nd floor, DBP Building
Development Bank of the Philippines
Sen. Gil J. Puyat Avenue corner Makati Avenue
Makati City, Philippines 1200
Telephone no : +632 819 1308 and +632 818 9511 local 2228
Transaction E-mail. SPV_AMD@devbankphil.com.ph

(Sgd) **ARMANDO O. SAMIA**
Executive Vice President and
Chairman, Special Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI–June 26, 27 & 28, 2006)

Rules on cash transfers tightened

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE BANGKO SENTRAL NG PILIPINAS HAS tightened the rules governing the remittance business to cut the costs incurred by millions of overseas Filipino workers when sending money to their families in the Philippines.

Banks, money transfer agents and other remittance service providers are now required to disclose the transfer fee they impose, their foreign exchange conversion rate, foreign exchange spread or mark-up, other currencies conversion and related charges, and their delivery time, the BSP said yesterday.

"The BSP rule aims at improving the information available to senders of the remittances and the recipients so that they can make informed decisions on how best to effect money transfers," the BSP said.

"Improved transparency in remittance transactions may provide an incentive for remittance service providers to reduce fees to remain competitive. This in turn would maximize inflows through formal channels," it added.

The BSP said this new requirement for greater transparency formed part of a package of initiatives and measures it was preparing to benefit millions of OFWs and their dependents.

"The banking industry welcomes it because it levels the playing field (between bank and non-bank cash transfer agencies), ensure transparency and increase protection to customers," said Raul Dimayuga, president of BPI Direct Savings, a new OFW-focused thrift banking unit of the Bank of the Philippine Islands.

He noted that the BPI group, one of the leading players in the cash transfer business, was already providing these pertinent information ahead of the BSP's new requirement.

"When customers go to our officers, the exchange rate is already posted, even the delivery time and there's full disclosure on the charges that are within our control. If we'll credit the amount to another bank account, we tell customers there may be charges to be imposed by receiving bank," Dimayuga said.

The BSP has observed that the cost of sending remittances to the Philippines has dropped slowly but steadily over the last five years due to stiffer competition, rising volume and technological innovations.

Based on a survey of six members from the banking industry's Association of Bank Remittances Officers Inc. (ABROI), there are four modes of sending remittances: sending to one's own bank account, sending credits from another bank to a local bank, door-to-door courier and "advice (bank) and pay."

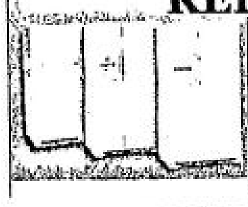
Jabra BT330

Lowest Ever Promotional Price
P1,999.00
The Jabra BT330
Light, comfortable and stylish.
Enjoy the freedom to communicate all day long.
Flexible earhook for use on either ear.
Freedom, Design and Innovation from Europe.

RELEASE YOUR JABRA
Jabra

Participating Dealers: **ABC Store** - Shangri-la (637-6302) • **Ambassador** - Park Square 1 (815-9170) • **Avant** - Greenbelt 4. (758-2315) • **BSD** - SM Manila/Mall of Asia (523-9663) • **Cellway Tech** - SM North (928-3272) • **Comcentre** - Park Square (816-1556) • **Complink** - Park Square 1 (893-1489) • **Digital Walker** - V-Mall / Mall of Asia (816-3574) • **Globotel** - Greenbelt 1 (888-0104) • **HELLO** - SM Megamall (636-1836) • **Megacellular** - Robinsons Ermita (525-0573) • **Memo Express** - SM Megamall (637-7781) • **Mobile One** - Podium (633-2211) • **Mobile Experts** - Park Square (812-8390) • **Semicon** - Rockwell (898-0261) • **Sirlance** - Moove Greenhills (722-9113)
email: jabraphil@yahoo.com

WAREHOUSE SALE
June 28 to July 05, 2006
UP TO 40% OFF
on Frigidaire
REFRIGERATORS



SAMPLE PRICE LISTS only

	Regular Price	SALE PRICE
Top Mount White 13.5 cu. ft	~~P 24,950.~~	P 16,950.
Top Mount White 16.6 cu ft	~~P 29,950.~~	P 19,950.
Side by Side White	~~P 169,950.~~	P 95,950.

For more information contact:
JCORDON COMMERCIAL CORPORATION
M. Greenfield KM 14, Merville Access Road, Merville, Paranaque City
Telephone Nos.: (02) 8211805 to 06
Per DTI-NCR Permit # A2-277 Series of 2000

1%
Interest monthly on your loan
only from
PLANTERSBANK
MORTGAGE OPTIMIZER
Now you can expand your business!

Enjoy the optimum benefits:
- Borrow from P500,000 to P5 Million against your property
- Fast processing, as quick as 10 to 15 working days
- Fixed interest rate of 12% per annum

CALL (02) 750-3112 or telefax 750-3113
Business Hours, Monday to Friday

PLANTERSBANK
Planters Development Bank
The Bank for Small and Medium Enterprises
www.plantersbank.com.ph

Bigatin ka sa bagong Fuso Canter!

MITSUBISHI TRUCKS
CANTER
MITSUBISHI
FUSO
FUSO

Dahil lumalaki na ang iyong negosyo, Fuso Canter ang kailangan mo. May lakas ng 3.9 liter 4D34-2A Euro Compliant diesel engine na maaasahan sa mga bigating kargahan. Siguradong laging nasa kondisyon with parts and service support readily available at all Mitsubishi dealers nationwide. Sa magarang delivery truck mo, safe lagi ang kargada at walang downtime kaya satisfied lagi ang customer. Huwag nang magtiis sa lumang truck, mag-Fuso Canter ka na.

Mas Malakas! Mitsubishi 4D34-2A Direct Injection Diesel Engine provides more power and torque.

Mas Matatag! Strong, reliable and durable chassis with improved safety features.

Mas Gwapo! Superior cabin and interior. Visually exciting and aero-dynamically efficient cab with car-like features

Malaking Gaan Financing Plans

Low Down Payment Plans

Model	SRP	20%DP	12	18	24	36	48
FE 519 4-Wheeler	805,000	151,000	57,184	39,138	30,616	21,818	17,460
FE 639 6-Wheeler	926,000	169,200	65,779	45,021	35,218	25,097	20,084

Low Monthly Plans

50%DP	12	18	24	36	48
402,500	34,861	23,860	18,669	13,304	10,647
463,000	39,705	27,176	21,265	15,154	12,127

All Plans Subject to Bank Approval

FUSO CANTER

FE 519 4-Wheeler Optional Rear Body and Decals. Photo may vary from actual unit.
See your nearest Mitsubishi dealer now!

METRO MANILA CITIMOTORS, INC -Makati (Main) - Tel Nos 892-0331 to 42 CITIMOTORS INC. - Las Piñas - Tel Nos 875-1545 / 875-1704 DIAMOND MOTOR CORP - Greenhills (Main) - Tel Nos 727-0351 to 00 DIAMOND MOTOR CORP - Quezon Ave Tel Nos 372-3001 to 15 DIAMOND MOTOR CORP - Marcos Highway - Tel Nos 646-4801 to 05 DIAMOND MOTOR Fairview Tel Nos 930-3731 418-2940 DIAMOND MOTOR CORP - Valle Verde - Tel Nos 671-0500 to 01 MITSUBISHI MOTORS BALINTAWAK - Tels 330-7574/8001 to 05 UNION MOTOR CORP - Paco (Main) - Tel Nos 563-8461 to 65 / 563-8461 to 67 UNION MOTOR CORP - Kalookan - Tel Nos 364-2061 to 69 LUZON DEALERS AMCAR AUTOMOTIVE CORP - Sta Rosa Laguna - Tel Nos (049) 841-1209 / (02) 420-8057 CALEB MOTOR CORP - Naga City Tel (054) 811-8119 CARWORLD, INC - Pampanga (Main) Tel Nos (045) 963-1111 CARWORLD INC - Malolos Tel Nos (044) 791-0320 / 791-2405 to 06 CARWORLD INC - Meycauayan Tel Nos (044) 711-2805 to 97 CARWORLD, INC - Olongapo Tel Nos (047) 222-3743 / 224-4307 CARWORLD, INC - Tarlac Tel Nos (0452) 982-8581 to 83 FREEWAY MOTOR SALES OF BALIUAG CORP - Baliuag Tel Nos (044) 673-4083 / 766-4236 FREEWAY MOTOR SALES OF CABANATUAN CORP - Cabanatuan (Main) Tel Nos (044) 463-1301 / 463-5106 FREEWAY MOTOR SALES - Isabela Tel (078) 682-8401 JADEZ MOTOR CORP - Dasmariñas Cavite Tel Nos (046) 416-0068 / 850-0119 / 416-5060 / 850-1081 MOTORPLAZA, INC - Calasiao (Main) Tel Nos (075) 517-3060 / 517-0228 MOTORPLAZA, INC - Baguio City Tel Nos (074) 300-3571 / 610-1023 MOTORPLAZA, INC - La Union Tel Nos (072) 705-5050 MOTORPLAZA, INC - Urdaneta Tel Nos (075) 568-2507 SFM SALES CORP - San Pablo (Main) Tel Nos (049) 562-0690 to 91 / 562-6509 SFM SALES CORP - Lipa Tel No (043) 756-1018 VISAYAS DEALERS AVESCOR MOTORS - Iloilo Tel Nos (033) 337-4465 / 337-8464 / 337-8487 AVESCOR MOTORS - Bacolod Tel Nos (034) 435-2111 to 14 MITSUBISHI MOTORS CEBU CORP (Main) Tel Nos (032) 345-1233 / 420-5777 MITSUBISHI MOTORS CEBU CORP - Dumaguete Tel Nos (035) 225-1427 to 29 / 226-0926 MITSUBISHI MOTORS CEBU CORP - Tacloban Tel Nos (053) 323-2520 / 323-2370 to 80 / 323-3724 MITSUBISHI MOTORS CEBU CORP - Tagbilaran Tel Nos (038) 411-2061 / 411-5614 to 16 MINDANAO DEALERS KARASIA, INC - Davao (Main) Tel Nos (082) 222-1111 to 16 KARASIA, INC - Davao (South) Tel Nos (082) 300-1490 to 94 / 298-0175 to 77 KARASIA, INC - Tagum Tel Nos (084) 217-3567 MINDANAO INTEGRATED COMMERCIAL ENTERPRISES, INC. Tel Nos (083) 302-0960 to 07 (083) 552-4761 MITSUBISHI MOTORS CEBU CORP - Butuan Tel Nos (085) 815-3089 MITSUBISHI MOTORS CEBU CORP. - Cagayan de Oro Tel Nos (088) 856-1540 ZAMBOANGA MOTORS, INC. Tel Nos (062) 991-2136 / 993-0786

Euro COMPLIANT

FUSO

afp retirement and separation benefits system
Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City
Telephone Nos. 911-4071 to 80

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

Republic of the Philippines
AFP-Retirement & Separation Benefits System

Re-Survey and Topographic Survey of Seven (7) Parcels of Land Located in Brgy. Lancaan II, Dasmariñas, Cavite

1. The AFP RETIREMENT AND SEPARATION BENEFITS SYSTEM (AFP-RSBS), through *the 2006 Corporate Budget approved by its Board of Trustees* intends to apply the sum of Four Hundred Thousand Pesos (P400,000.00) being the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) to payments under the contract for the Re-Survey and Topographic Survey of Seven (7) Parcels of Land located in Brgy. Lancaan II, Dasmariñas, Cavite. Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at the opening of the financial proposals.
2. The AFP-RSBS now calls for the submission of *Letters of Intent (LOIs)* from potential bidders, who are Filipino citizens or organizations with at least 60% interest belonging to citizens of the Philippines, to apply for eligibility and short listing for the Re-Survey and Topographic Survey of Seven (7) Parcels of Land located in Brgy. Lancaan II, Dasmariñas, Cavite. Interested consultants must submit their LOIs by hand, through mail, or facsimile on or before 05 July 2006, 5 pm at *BAC Secretariat Office CMA-C, AFP RSBS Building, Capinpin Avenue, Camp Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City* and secure the Eligibility Documents therefrom. The last day for the submission of the accomplished Eligibility Documents shall be on 19 July 2006, 5 pm at the *BAC Secretariat Office CMA-C, AFP RSBS Building, Capinpin Avenue, Camp Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City*. Eligibility check and short listing shall be conducted on 21 July 2006.
3. The BAC shall draw up the short list of consultants from those who have submitted *LOIs* and have been determined as eligible both in accordance with the provisions of Republic Act 9184 (R. A. 9184) and its Implementing Rules and Regulations Part A (IRR-A). Only those that are short listed will be entitled to submit bids. Applications for eligibility will be evaluated on a "pass/fail" basis. The short list of prospective bidders shall consist of *five (5)* consultants. The criteria and rating system for short listing are:

ITEM	WEIGHT	RATING	WEIGHTED SCORE
I. APPLICABLE EXPERIENCE (50%)			
a) Completed consulting services of size, complexity and technical specialty comparable to job under consideration, including quality of performance.	(30%)		
b) Other completed consulting services related to the job under consideration.	(10%)		
c) Known cases of prior performance, including quality of work conforming to obligations and cost of services			
II. QUALIFICATION OF PERSONNEL (30%)			
Qualification of the key personnel that may be assigned to the job.	(30%)		
III. JOB CAPACITY (20%)			
Current workload relative to capacity	(20%)		

4. Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures as specified in the IRR-A of R.A. 9184 and only bids from short listed consultants will be opened. In accordance with the IRR-A of R.A. 9184 the contract will only be awarded to the Highest Rated and Responsive Bidder who was determined as such during post-qualification.

   The PROCURING ENTITY shall evaluate bids using the *Quality-Cost Based Evaluation (QCBE)* procedure. The criteria and rating system for the evaluation of bids shall be provided in the Instructions to Bidders
5. Interested consultants may obtain further information from the *AFP-RSBS* at the address given below from *8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday to Friday*.

   AFP-RSBS Bids and Awards Committee,
   AFP-RSBS Building, 424 Capinpin Avenue
   Camp Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City,
   Tel. Nos. 911-40-71 local 266/269/281
6. The contract shall be completed within one hundred eighty (180) calendar days
7. The *AFP-RSBS* reserves the right to reject any and all bids, annul the bidding process, or not award the contract at any time prior to the contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders

Asset Enhancement Office
Ms. Alma P. Aban
AFP-RSBS Bldg. 424 Capinpin Avenue
Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City
Tel. No. 911-40-71 local 287
Tel./Fax No. 911-21-55

(Sgd.) FRANKLIN C. ACOSTA
Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI–June 21 & 28, 2006)

Oceanic REALTY GROUP
PRIME LOTS FOR SALE
White Plains, Q.C.
5 to 10 years to pay
867-8913 to 17 / 0917-8479276

WHITE PLAINS LOTS
15% Downpayment
Up to 12 Years to pay
CALL NOW !
867-8913 to 17 / 0917-8479276

20% DISCOUNT!
ENGINE TUNE-UP
WHEEL ALIGN,
BALANCING BRAKES,
CAMBER CONVERSION
CREDIT CARDS HONORED
RUBBERVOLT
77 VIS Ave., QC
36 West Ave 9201794/95

POEA **24-HR HOTLINES**
722-1144 • 722-1155

台灣日立(菲律賓)股份有限公司
HITACHI AIR CONDITIONING PRODUCTS (PHILS.), INC.
No. 1A Binictican Drive, Subic Bay Industrial Park Phase II
Subic Bay Freeport Zone, Philippines
Tel. Nos. (63)47-252-1990/1133/1663 Fax No. (63)47-252-1600

We are in need of applicants for the position:

QUALITY ASSURANCE DEPARTMENT MANAGER

Qualifications:
- Mechanical/Electrical Engineering Graduate
- Male, 35-40 years old
- At least 7-10 years experience in Quality Assurance and Production Management
- An Experience in Air Conditioning or its related industry is an advantage
- Knows how to speak fluent Mandarin

Qualified and interested applicants may send their resumé with NBI Clearance, Birth Certificate and Employment Certificate to:

SBMA Labor Department
Subic Bay Freeport Zone
Contact Person: Estelito C. Aliño, Jr.
Personnel Officer
Hitachi Air Conditioning Products (Phils.), Inc.

PNOC-ENERGY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
Energy Complex, Merritt Road
Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City 1634
Tel. No. 893-1320, Local 5285 and 5282

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND BID

The PNOC-Energy Development Corporation is inviting all interested suppliers to apply and submit sealed bids for the supply and delivery of the following:

PARTICULAR	APPROVED BUDGET
Various Sizes of Gate Valves under FGJ 60809	PHP 6,892,000.00
Various Sizes of Long Radius Elbows under FGJ 60822	PHP 12,308,000.00
Various Sizes of Casing Head Flanges under FGT 53769	PHP 3,505,000.00
Various Sizes of Casing Head Flanges under FGT 61979	PHP 1,954,000.00

Eligibility forms and bidding documents shall be available for issuance at the above address c/o Roderick R. Cabantog and Maria Cristina Lynn M. Mercado starting June 21, 2006, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P400.00 per document.

For purposes of clarifying certain matters, a pre-bidding conference shall be held on June 29, 2006, 2:00 p.m. at the above address.

Applications for eligibility and sealed bids shall be submitted to and registered with the PNOC-EDC Supply, Property and Materials Management Division, at the above address and thereafter dropped in the padlocked bid box thereat not later than 2:00 p.m. (Supply Management Department Office Wall Clock time) on July 13, 2006. Public opening of bids shall follow immediately thereafter. Late bids shall not be accepted.

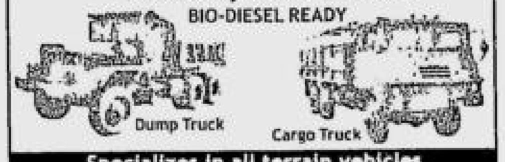
Prospective bidders shall signify conformance to the bidding terms and conditions, as required, and shall ensure the same through proper submission/execution. Source of funding is from Internal Cash Generation of PNOC-EDC. All bids should be within the Approved Budget for the Contract in order to qualify.

PNOC-Energy Development Corporation reserves the right to annul the bidding process, to reject any or all bids, to waive any informality in the bids received and to accept such bid which is most advantageous to PNOC-EDC without thereby incurring liability to the affected bidder or bidders or any obligation to inform the affected bidder or bidders of the ground(s) for PNOC-EDC's action.

Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee I

(PDI–June 21 & 28, 2006)

Powered by ISUZU ENGINE
BIO-DIESEL READY



Specializes in all terrain vehicles
4x4, 6x6, 6x10 WD
GOLDEN TRANSPORT
Bulua Highway, Cagayan de Oro City
Telefax No. (088) 858-5986 Cell. No. 09203226403

St. Francis Divine College
Novaliches,
Quezon City
Offers
Diploma in
ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE
Enrollment
Now Going On!!!
Classes Start
July 1-2, 2006
Saturday and Sunday
Classes Only
Call the Directress
939-9304
0920-2127766
www.geocities.com/sfdc_ph

SECRETARY/RECEPTIONIST

A very important position for us. You will be the first person many people will talk to when contacting us.

Female with pleasing personality, 2-3 yrs. of experience, graduate, excellent communication & public relations skills both in person & on the phone. Computer literate, takes minutes & multi-tasking capabilities.

Apply in person to:

FLIP GEAR, INC.
10/F, Unit 1007, Richmonde Plaza,
San Miguel Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Email: ofie flipgear@yahoo.com
0916-5202077

BANK ACQUIRED ASSET FOR SALE

The Taipan Place, Emerald Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City
CONDOMINIUM UNITS WITH PARKING SLOTS

Unit No.	Unit Area	Parking Area	Indicative Selling Price
705	127.59 sqm.	12.50 sqm.	P6.2 M
706	127.64 sqm.	12.50 sqm.	6.2 M

For inquiries, please call:
ASSET MANAGEMENT & DISPOSITION DIVISION
Tel Nos.: 811-9797
Subject to bank approval. Prices are subject to change without prior notice.
UCPB

Oceanic REALTY GROUP
LEASE-TO-OWN
Limited Units Only!
8 Wack Wack
2-3BR, 25-35T/mo
Best golf view!
Mandaluyong City
Golf Hill Terraces
15T/mo:Near UP,Ateneo
Adj. Ayala Heights.QC
867-8913 to 17
0917-8479276

BAGUIO
VERY LUXURIOUS CONDOS!
ACROSS BURNHAM PARK KISAD ROAD
STUDIO, 1 & 2BR UNITS
OWNERSHIP STARTS AT
P13,000.00/MO.
0920-6014088
915-0055
RIBBON CUTTING AND BLESSING OF MODEL UNITS ON JULY 01, 2006
Brokers Welcome

BUY * SELL * PAWN
WATCHES
JEWELRY
DIAMONDS
BEST OFFER
IN TOWN
8342886
8040484

PROFESSIONAL & CREDIBLE
PAWN*BUY*SELL
WATCHES
BEST APPRAISAL
Secondo Glonetta 1
Tel# 894-0282
Agencia de Makati
Tel# 889-7956

SEND YOUR RESUMÉS INSTANTLY **JOB** VISIT US AT www.jobmarketonline.com

---

OBITUARIES

GLORIA DOMINGO MANALO

of Pateros, Metro Manila

Died in the Grace of our Lord
on June 27, 2006 at the age of 88.

BS Pharmacy 1937 – University of the Philippines
Professor – UP College of Pharmacy
UP MS Pharmacy
MS Chemistry – University of Michigan
PHD Analytical Chemistry – University of Michigan

Her loving brothers & sisters: (†) **Fernando**, (†) **Maria**, (†) **Esperanza**, **Augusto**, **Agripino**, **Ponciano** and **Josefina**; brothers and sisters-in-law; nephews and nieces; friends and relatives request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her body lies in state at Santuario de San Antonio Chapel, Forbes Park, Makati City until Thursday a.m., June 29, 2006 and will be transferred to Claret Church, U.P. Village, Diliman, Quezon City. On Friday, June 30, 2006 the body will be transferred to Garden of Memories Chapels, Pateros, Metro Manila.

Interment will be on Saturday, July 01, 2006 at the Garden of Memories Memorial Park, Pateros, Metro Manila after the 2:00 p.m. funeral Mass.

AGRIPINO B. DE VERA

of Dagupan, Pangasinan and Makati City

Peacefully joined his Creator
on June 23, 2006 at the age of 82.

He is survived by his wife **Naty**; children **Noel**, **Arnold**, **Teddy**, **Yul** & **Ver** (†); daughters-in-law, grandchildren, relatives & friends request pious reader to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Sacred Heart Chapel of National Shrine of Sacred Heart at Dau St., San Antonio Village, Makati City.

Interment at the Manila Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque after the funeral Mass today, June 28, 2006 at 1:00 p.m. at Church of National Shrine of the Sacred Heart, Dau St., San Antonio Village, Makati City.

MARCIANA SALONGA vda. de MENGUITO

of #522 M. Almeda St., Pateros, Metro Manila

Peacefully joined our Lord
on June 25, 2006 at the age of 87.

Her bereaved children: **Temie & Marita**, **Lorie & Tanny**, **Ding & Tessie**, **Merlie & Sam**, **Fe**, **Al & Family**; sisters **Tiniong**, **Cion**, **Lourdes & Nene**; grandchildren: **Bebeth**, **Melanie**, **Lalaine**, **Lynette**, **Liezl**, **Lian**, **Amber**, **Shiela**, **EL**, **Maricris**, **Andrew**, **Aljane & Aljon**; great grandchildren: **Gabbie**, **Mickey**, **Rachelle**, **Kayla & Angeli** request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at Chapel 5, Garden of Memories Chapels, Bagong Calzada, Pateros, Metro Manila.

Interment will be on Sunday, July 02, 2006 at the Garden of Memories Memorial Park, Pateros, Metro Manila after the 2:00 p.m. funeral Mass.

Leopoldo T. Reyes, Sr.

of Malolos, Bulacan,
peacefully joined our Lord.

His wife **Gloria**; children **Elaine**, **Herdie**, **Paul**, **Lorna**, **Ned** and **Joan**, give thanks to the Lord for the blessing of his life.

His remains lie in state at Mount Carmel Church, Quezon City. Mass will be today, June 28, 2006 at 5:30 p.m. and interment will be held soon after at Mount Carmel Shrine Parish, Doña Juana Rodriguez Avenue, New Manila, Quezon City.

> "Even when I walk through a dark valley, I feel no harm. For you are at my side, your rod and staff give me courage..." Psalm 23:4

More Classified Ads:
Ilocos Sur Electric Coop on A9,
POEA on A18,
PCSO & DBP on B4
and Comelec on B7

Palawan eyes P2-B medical center

Province asks DOH for help in solving funding problems

By Ronnel W. Domingo

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT OF PALAWAN has asked the Department of Health for help in upgrading the province's health care system, which will include the development of a P2-billion medical tourism facility.

Palawan governor Joel T. Reyes said yesterday in a briefing that the move was an effort at clarifying the local government's "relationship" with the national government, which would hopefully resolve funding issues.

The natural resource-rich province is in a legal tussle with central authorities stemming from a dispute over revenues from the Malampaya natural gas deposit off Palawan.

Earlier this year, the Office of the Solicitor General asked the Supreme Court to overturn a Court of Appeals decision issued in December 2005 that said the Malampaya gas field was part of Palawan and thus entitles the province to a share in revenues.

Provincial Capitol estimates showed that, based on Department of Energy figures, Palawan was entitled to some P2 billion in gas earnings over a period of 20 years starting 2002.

The governor explained that with such an inflow of revenues, a planned Medical Center—a health care facility with provisions for medical tourism—could be easily realized.

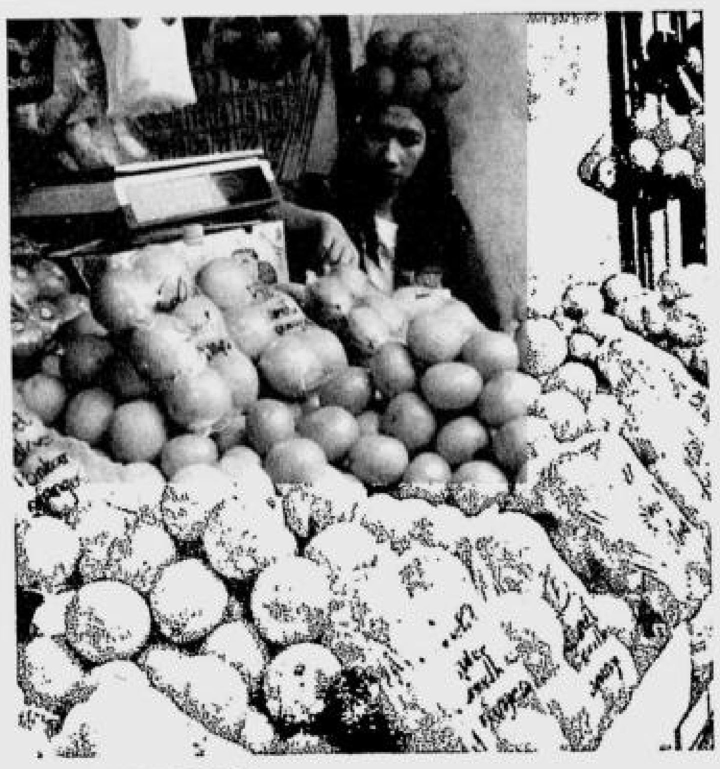
"Some private sector groups have signified interest in taking part in this but (we regard DOH input indispensable in this project)," he added.

Reyes said his office had signed a contract with a consultancy firm, which will study the feasibility of putting up the medical center.

"Palawan has a rich potential in medical tourism," he said. "We have natural spas, good beaches and lush mountains that are perfect settings for rest, recuperation and therapy."

He said further that Palawan was improving its medical and health care facilities with the establishment of the North and South Provincial Hospitals.

Plans are also underway for the development of a community-based health insurance system for indigents, Reyes said.



SEEING ORANGE
Citrus fruits are plentiful during this time of the year in Benguet and buyers are happy to taste the local version of these American staples. TOOTS SOBERANO, PDI NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU

NTC kicks out ANC from channel 27 slot

By Daxim L. Lucas

SUBSCRIBERS TO THE CABLE television services of Sky Cable should expect yet another round of confusing channel reassignments after telecommunications regulators ruled against the Lopez-owned firm in its dispute with rival GMA Network Inc.

In a rebuke of the practices of Central Cable TV—Sky Cable's official name—the National Telecommunication Commission's ordered the firm to yield its channel 27 slot to GMA Network's QTV-11 program transmissions.

The decision means that Sky Cable will have to reassign its ABS-CBN News Channel (ANC), which presently occupies channel 27, to another slot.

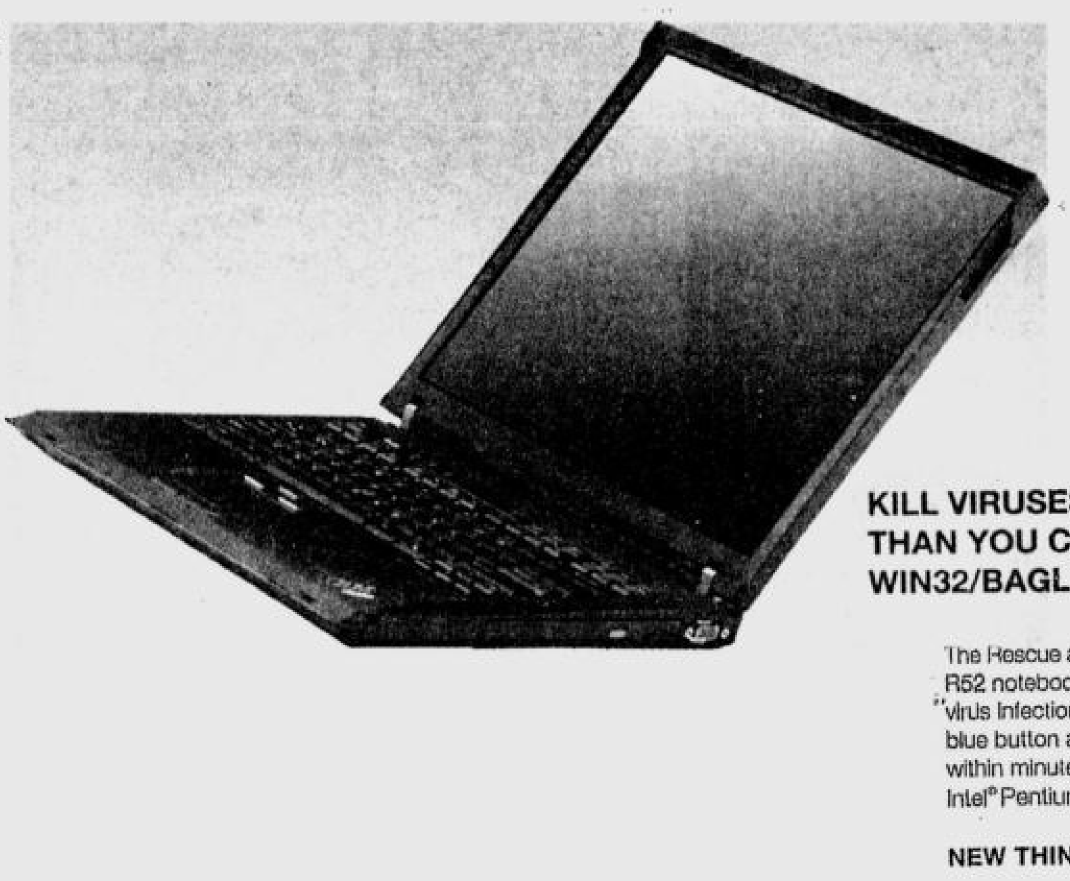
In its decision, NTC said it found Sky Cable "liable for violating the provisions of [an earlier memorandum circular] for refusing to carry UHF 27 (owned by GMA-7) at the channel in which it is transmitting."

The regulator also slapped a monetary penalty on the cable operator according to the terms of the Commonwealth Act No. 146 or the Public Service Act which penalizes "public services" for violating rules of the NTC.

NTC also ordered Sky Cable to carry GMA-7's UHF 27 signal on its channel 27 slot—dislodging the popular ANC channel—within 30 days from receiving the decision.

"[Sky Cable] is hereby warned that a repeat or recurrence of its violation shall be dealt with more severely by this commission," the NTC warned.

The decision was signed by NTC commissioner Ronald O. Solis and deputy commissioners Jorge V. Sarmiento and Jaime M. Fortes Jr.



Lenovo recommends Windows® XP Professional.

KILL VIRUSES FASTER THAN YOU CAN SAY WIN32/BAGLE.X@MM!CME-328

The Rescue and Recovery™ button on the ThinkPad® R52 notebook is your antidote for software crashes, virus infections, even system failures. Just press the blue button and watch your saved data materialise within minutes. The Lenovo ThinkPad R52 with Intel® Pentium® M Processor.

NEW THINKING. NEW THINKPAD.™

thinkpad R52
DISTINCTIVE INNOVATIONS
Integrated Fingerprint Reader & Rescue and Recovery™
SYSTEM FEATURES
Intel® Pentium® M Processor 740 (1.73GHz)
Intel® 915GM Chipset
Intel® Wireless 802.11b/g
Genuine Windows® XP Professional
256MB, 40GB HDD
CD-RW/DVD-ROM Combo Drive
15" XGA (1024x768) TFT LCD display, Intel® GMA 900, 1 year parts & labor (system battery: 1 year) Customer Carry-in Repair Warranty
FREE 128MB Memory Key
TopSeller Model
PHP87,795† (1860BYA)

thinkpad R51e
DISTINCTIVE INNOVATIONS
Rescue and Recovery™
Push-of-a-button data backup and recovery
SYSTEM FEATURES
Intel® Pentium® M Processor 740 (1.73GHz)
Genuine Windows® XP Home
256MB, 40GB HDD
CD-RW/DVD-ROM Combo Drive
14.1" XGA (1024x768) TFT LCD display, ATI Radeon 200m Graphics, ATI RC410M Chipset, IBM Wireless 802.11 b/g, 1 year parts & labor (system battery: 1 year) Customer Carry-in Repair Warranty
FREE USB Travel Mouse
TopSeller Model
PHP66,795† (18433JA)

thinkpad R51e
DISTINCTIVE INNOVATIONS
Rescue and Recovery™
Push-of-a-button data backup and recovery
SYSTEM FEATURES
Intel® Pentium® M Processor 370 (1.5GHz)
PC DOS
256MB, 40GB HDD
CD-RW/DVD-RW Multi-Burner Drive
14.1" XGA (1024x768) TFT LCD display, ATI Radeon 200m Graphics, ATI RC410M Chipset, IBM Wireless 802.11 b/g, 1 year parts & labor (system battery: 1 year) Customer Carry-in Repair Warranty
TopSeller Model
PHP51,895† (1843AL6)

Complement these ThinkPad notebookswith special upgrade options:
- USB 2.0 Portable 80GB HDD w/ Rescue and Recovery™ (40Y8726) PHP15,595†
- IBM USB Fingerprint Reader (73P4774) PHP3,595†
- ThinkPad 72W Slim AC/DC Combo Adapter (both compatible w/ T43/X41/X41 Tablet) (73P4492) PHP3,095†
- ThinkPad T40/R50 9-cell Li-Ion Battery (92P1102) PHP4,595†
- Kensington MicroSaver Security Cable Lock (73P2582) PHP2,495†
- 256MB PC2-4200 CL4 NP DDR2 SDRAM SODIMM (73P3840) PHP3,095†
- 512MB PC2-4200 CL4 NP DDR2 SDRAM SODIMM (73P3842) PHP5,695†

With the Think Express Program, ThinkPad notebooks are preconfigured with your business and your budget in mind.

Contact our authorised resellers today.
lenovo.com/ph/offers

lenovo™

Corporate Resellers: Accent Micro Technologies, Inc. 6363563 • American Technologies, Inc. 7230601 • Creative Technologies, Inc. 4004222 • Equicom Computer Services, Inc. 8133801 • Integrated Computer Systems, Inc. 7273801 • Ng Khai Development Corporation (032) 3402926 • Personal Computer Specialists, Inc. 8105108 • Unison Computer Systems, Inc. 3745888 Partners: ABC Abby Business Corp. 7214960 • Accent Micro Products, Inc. 6347099 loc. 3606 • Advance Microsystems Corp. 6354181 loc. 138 • Advance Solutions, Inc. 5203035 • Aries IT Systems 8921000 loc. 2888 • Axis Computer, Inc. 2548547 • Axus International, Inc. 6876500 • Ayala Systems Technology Inc. 8132494 • Columbia Technologies, Inc. 4007981 • Digital Exchange 7528850 • Eco I.T. Solutions Corporation 4151107 • Electroworld, Inc. 6318101 • Information Products, Corp. 6953430 • JPMED Asian Pacific Incorporated 8436000 • MG Business Systems, Inc. 3727920 • Micro Image International, Corp. 8404050 • Micro Pacific Technologies & Systems Corp. 8404563 loc. 115 • Microbase, Inc. 8137603 • Microcircuits Corporation 5318262 • MicroGold Information Solutions & Products, Inc. 8885888 • Microphase Corporation 8128814 • Ng Khai Development Corporation 8037454 • Northgate Technologies, Inc. 8937164 • Productivity Tech Services, Inc. 8906713 • Questronix Corporation 8134422 • Silicon Valley Computer Center 3710868 • Valueline Systems & Solutions Corporation 9257623 • Villman Computer Systems, Inc. 9290411 • Virtuality Business Machines & Software Solutions, Inc. 7277632 • Zenshin Systems Corporation 3669395

Republic of the Philippines
COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS
Manila

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES AND PERIODS ON PROHIBITED ACTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE JULY 15, 2006 PLEBISCITE TO RATIFY THE CREATION OF BARANGAY MANURIGAO TO BE TAKEN FROM BARANGAY ANDAP, AND BARANGAY TANDAWAN TO BE TAKEN FROM BARANGAY CAMANLANGAN, MUNICIPALITY OF NEW BATAAN, COMPOSTELA VALLEY, PURSUANT TO PROVINCIAL ORDINANCE NO. 02 DATED SEPTEMBER 29, 2003 OF THE PROVINCE OF COMPOSTELA VALLEY.
x----------------------------x

ABALOS, Benjamin S.	Chairman
BORRA, Resurreccion Z.,	Commissioner
TUASON, Florentino A. Jr.,	Commissioner
BRAWNER, Romeo A.	Commissioner
SARMIENTO, Rene V.	Commissioner
FERRER, Nicodemo T.	Commissioner

Promulgated: 23 June 2006

RESOLUTION NO. 7680

Pursuant to the powers vested in it by the Constitution, the Omnibus Election Code, the Local Government Code (Republic Act No. 7160), Republic Act No. 7166, and other election laws, the Commission on Elections RESOLVED to adopt, as it hereby RESOLVES to adopt, the following Calendar of Activities and Periods of Prohibited Acts for the July 15, 2006 plebiscite to ratify the Creation of Barangay Manurigao to be taken from the Mother Barangay Andap, and Barangay Tandawan to be taken from the Mother Barangay Camanlangan, Municipality of New Bataan, Compostela Valley; to wit:

DATE/PERIOD	PLEBISCITE ACTIVITIES	PROHIBITED ACTS COVERED/INVOLVED
July 3, 2006 (MON) to July 17, 2006 (MON)	**PLEBISCITE PERIOD**	1. Bearing, carrying or transporting firearms or other deadly weapons in public places, including any building, street, park, private vehicle or public conveyance, even if licensed to possess or carry the same, unless authorized in writing by the Commission (Sec. 261 (p) (q) (s) OEC as amended by Sec. 32 R.A. No. 7166; 2. Suspension of elective local officials, (Sec. 261 (x) OEC); 3. Transfer of officers and employees in the Civil Service. (Sec. 261 (h) OEC); 4. Organization or maintenance of reaction forces, strike forces or other similar forces, (Sec. 261 (u) OEC).
July 03, 2006 (MON) to July 15, 2006 (SAT)		1. Appointment or hiring of new employees. Sec. 261 (g) OEC); 2. Creation or filling up of new positions. (Sec. 261 (g) OEC); 3. Promotions or giving of salary increases, remuneration or privilege. (Sec. 261 (g) OEC); 4. Construction of public works, delivery of materials for public works and issuance of treasury warrants or similar devices for a future undertaking chargeable against public funds. (Sec. 261 (w) OEC); 5. Releases, disbursements or expenditures of public works and social services and development. (Sec 261 (v) OEC); 6. Appointment or use of special policemen special/confidential agents or the like (Sec. 261 (m) OEC); 7. Use of armored land, water or aircraft. (Sec 261 (r) OEC); 8. Wearing of uniforms and bearing of arms. (Sec. 261 (s) OEC).
July 03, 2006 (MON) to July 14, 2006 (FRI)	**CAMPAIGN PERIOD**	
July 10, 2006 (MON)	Submission to Comelec of complete list of all special policemen, special/ confidential agents or persons performing similar functions in the employ of barangay chairman, municipal mayor or any appointing authority. Last day for appointment of members of Plebiscite Committees	
July 12, 2006 (WED) to July 15, 2006 (SAT)	Posting of the Certified List of Voters as of the May 10, 2004 elections, including all those whose applications for registration and/or transfer of registration records have been approved by the ERB as of the 1st quarterly ERB hearing on April 17, 2006.	
July 14, 2006 (FRI)	Inspection of Polling Places	Selling, furnishing, offering, buying, serving or taking intoxicating liquor, etc. (Sec 261 (dd), (1), OEC).
July 15, 2006 (SAT)	**PLEBISCITE DAY**	1. Cockfighting, and other forms of gambling, holding fairs, boxing and/or any other similar sports. (Sec. 261 (dd) OEC)] 2. Giving, accepting free transportation, food, drinks, and things of value (Sec. 89, OEC). 3. Opening of booths or stalls for the sale of merchandise, refreshment, etc. within 30 meters radius from polling place (Sec. 261 (dd) (2) OEC).
July 17, 2006 (MON)	**LAST DAY OF PLEBISCITE PERIOD**	

This Resolution shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the Philippines by the Education and Information Department, and in one (1) local newspaper by the Regional Election Director of Region XI. The Education and Information Department shall likewise furnish copies of this Resolution to the Offices of the Regional Election Director of Region XI, the Provincial Election Supervisor of Compostela Valley, the Election Officer of New Bataan, Compostela Valley, the Secretary of the Department of Interior and Local Government, the Secretary of the Department of Education, the Governor of Compostela Valley, the Mayor of New Bataan, Compostela Valley, the Head of the Deputized PNP and the DepEd Supervisor of New Bataan, Compostela Valley. The Election Officer of New Bataan, Compostela Valley shall give this Resolution the widest dissemination in his municipality.

The Deputy Executive Director for Operations, assisted by the Director of the Education and Information Department shall implement this Resolution.

This Resolution shall take effect upon its promulgation.

SO ORDERED.

BENJAMIN S. ABALOS
Chairman

RESURRECCION Z. BORRA
Commissioner

FLORENTINO A. TUASON, JR.
Commissioner

ROMEO A. BRAWNER
Commissioner

RENE V. SARMIENTO
Commissioner

NICODEMO T. FERRER
Commissioner

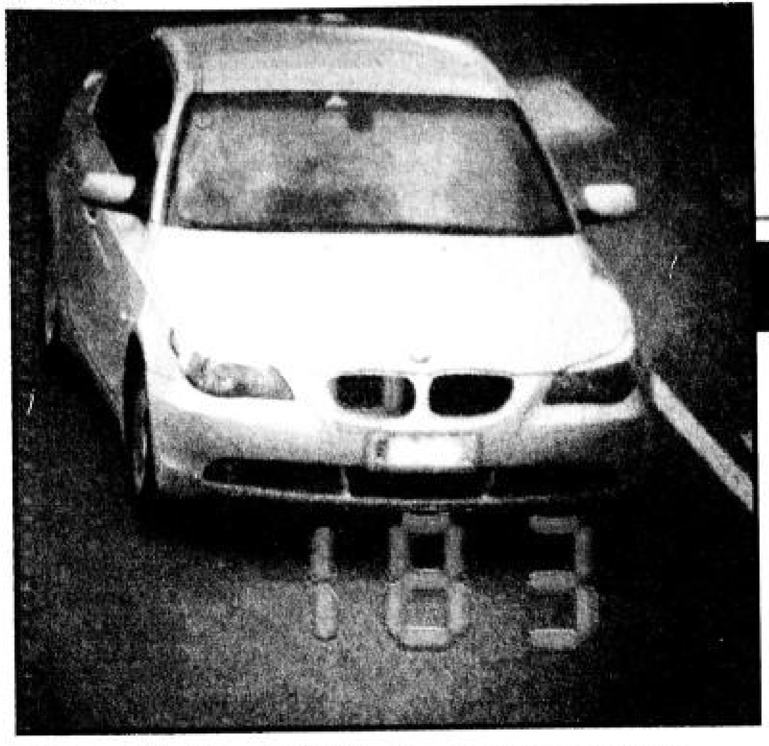
(PDI-June 28, 2006)

MOTORING

E-mail: pr_motoring@inquirer.com.ph

Editor Cesar D. Mangawang

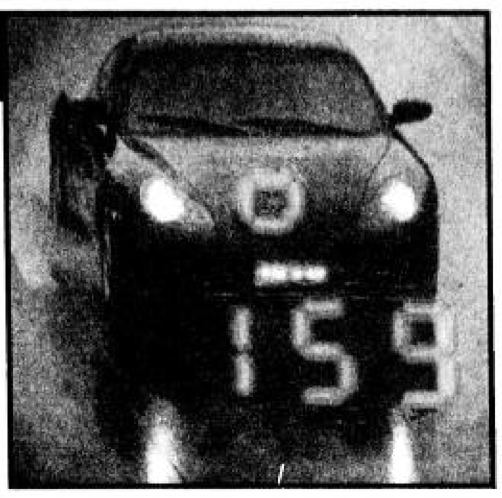
Text us your feedback: inquirer mtr name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)



THIS speedy legislator's BMW 5 will pass by 13 buses before it screeches to a halt.

GOTCHA, 'ZIPPIES'!

'Guesstimates' galore on braking distances



SOME 540 people on board 9 buses will wonder why this black Porsche 911 is in a hurry to stop.

By Tessa R. Salazar

(Second of three parts)

IN A SNAP, INQUIRER Motoring last week estimated the braking distances of two zippy "perps" (short for perpetrators) making short work of a stretch of the 84-km North Luzon Expressway. Here are more speed freaks captured in an Olympus C770 camera attached to the Pro Laser 3 custom speed gun..

The braking distance means the distance traveled between the time the driver steps on the brakes and when the vehicle comes to a complete stop. Take note that this doesn't yet take into consideration the driver perception and reaction time and vehicle reaction time.

The plate numbers have been intentionally blurred to protect the owners of the posh cars shown here.

For a more intelligent guesstimate, INQUIRER Motoring sent the images and the corresponding speeds to Joel Neilsen, owner and managing director of Safe Drive Training in Australia Pty Ltd.

The dynamics of stopping

In the simplest possible terms, Neilsen and his team explain the dynamics of stopping. For any vehicle, the braking distance is quadrupled every time the speed is doubled. A car running at 200 kph would consume a braking distance four times that of the same car running at 100 kph. Neilsen explains this in terms of the equation that Kinetic Energy = 0.5 x mass x velocity squared.

This BMW 5 Series vehicle, owned by a lawmaker caught speeding thrice, is seen running at 183 kph. At this speed, the Bimmer will only be able to come to a complete stop after 140 meters. This distance is equivalent to 13 full-size buses (measuring 10.6 meters each).

Simplifying calculations

Here, a black Porsche 911 running at 159 kph would have to consume 95 meters—equivalent to 9 buses—before stopping.

As we stated last week, to simplify the calculations, we had to assign some givens: (1) Only the driver is in the car; (2) The car has good tires with correct tire pressures (we assume they do, relative to the luxury class of the vehicles); (3) The car has standard original equipment brakes (not upgraded); (4) The car is running on good road surface in the dry (NLEX roads are world-class); and (5) The drivers are skilled (not impaired by fatigue, alcohol or drugs, and not distracted by cell phones).

WINDSHIELD
CRACK REPAIR
U.S. Pat.
Up to any Long, Guaranteed!
LTO APPROVED!
NOT REPLACEMENT! EMISSION CTR2
• RESTORES CLARITY 80-90%, STRENGTH 100%
• RECYCLES A/C FREON/REFRIGERANTS @ 250/KL.
• REMOVE GLASS SCRATCHES, ACID RAINS & SILICON BUILD-UP
• CLEANS & SANITIZED CAR A/C IN 45 MINS. (U.S.)
CALL NOW BEFORE ITS TOO LATE!
MANILA MIDWEST #40 Kalayaan, Ave., Q.C. Tels.: 926-6829/435-6391
Nat'l. Rd. Bangiad, Taytay, Rizal Tels.: 286-2925/286-0362
Km. 16 Aguinaldo Hi-way, Talaba VII, Bacoor, Cavite
Tel.: (046) 970-2464 Cell# 0928-4050044 / 0919-2348950
Website: http://members.aol.com/hitecom
Bring this ad for P150 OFF except on Emission Test. Expiration date 08/31/06

Inquirer columnist elected Cagi president

SEVILLA-MENDOZA

INQUIRER COLUMNIST AIda Sevilla-Mendoza was recently elected as president of the Car Awards Group Inc. for the 2006-2007 campaign.

Also elected were Mercedes Benz Magazine editor Alvin Uy, vice president; Motorcycle Magazine editor in chief and Philippine Star contributor Lester Dizon, treasurer; Top Gear Philippines off-road guru and lawyer Robbie Consunji, secretary; and Manila Bulletin senior reporter and Cruising Magazine and Top Gear Magazine columnist Aris Ilagan, public relations officer.

Past Cagi president Manny de los Reyes, editor in chief of Speed Magazine and Philippine Star contributor, was nominated as the group's ex-officio.

Elected as officers were Consunji, Sevilla-Mendoza, Ilagan, Dizon and Uy. They later elected among themselves the president, vice president, treasurer, secretary and public relations officer.

Cagi, a nonstock, nonprofit organization of 27 motoring journalists from over 20 print, broadcast and cyber media outfits, held its elections at the conference hall of Ortigas Home Depot complex in Pasig City.

Attending the elections were representatives from the INQUIRER, Manila Bulletin, Philippine Star, ManilaStandardToday, Manila Times, Business Mirror, RPN 9 News, Studio 23's Hotwire and Stoplight TV, ABC 5's MP Turbo, REV! Magazine, Top Gear Philippines, Gadgets Magazine, Speed Magazine, Mercedes-Benz Magazine, autoindustriya.com and motioncars.com.

Now on its third year, Cagi institutionalized the annual Philippine Car of the Year (Coty-P) awards that honor the motor vehicles adjudged as the best in their respective categories. The Car of the Year is chosen from the best-in-class winners.

smooth operator
SENTRA istyle
You're Always First With The SENTRA
First in Class ABS
First in Class [illegible]
First in Class Backing-Up Sensor
First in Class Auto Climate Control
First in Class Electronic Automatic Transmission
First in Class Airbag & ELR Seatbelts
First in Class Heads-Up Display
THREE 100,000 WARRANTY
Awarded 5-Star Rating for Safety (Japanese New Car Assessment Programme)
SENTRA
SHIFT_the future
NISSAN

Discerning drivers know the SENTRA has always been first in introducing the latest technologies.

The istyle is the culmination of almost 20 years in leading-edge technology - Drive home the innovator today.

Assembled and distributed by
NISSAN MOTOR PHILIPPINES, INC.
www.nissan.com.ph

METRO MANILA
NISSAN GALLERY QUEZON AVE.
Tel 731-5308 Fax 740-3066
NISSAN SHAW CENTER
Tel 722-7676/7670; 726-2550/6487
NISSAN U.N. AVE., MANILA
Tel 400-1020/2177, 522-4753; 404-2439
NISSAN WESTGATE ALABANG
Tel. 772-1627 to 30; 775-0239
NISSAN NORTH EDSA (Balintawak)
Tel: 330-6331 loc. 233/246/265; 361-9905; 455-8980
NISSAN MANILA, INC.
Tel 252-3558 251-9060 to 63
MANTRADE DEVELOPMENT CORP.
Tel: 843-3316 to 23
NISSAN GALLERY ORTIGAS
Tel 635-5808, 439-4537
NISSAN COMMONWEALTH
Tel 932-0428, 951-2926;
Fax: 931-0087

LUZON
NISSAN SOUTHWOODS
Tel (046) 430-1683 (049) 241-3040; (02) 690-2400
ROYCE MOTORS SANTIAGO
Tel (078) 682-8701/6707
ROYCE MOTORS CABANATUAN
Tel (044) 463-3368, 600-5328
ROYCE MOTORS PAMPANGA
Tel: (045) 961-7773/7774

VISAYAS
NISSAN BACOLOD
Tel (034) 434-8051 to 52; (034) 435-1102
NISSAN CEBU DISTRIBUTORS, INC.
Tel (032) 346-0350, 346-8422
NISSAN ILOILO (S &J Motors)
Tel. (033) 320-4051 to 53

Asian brands top new-car quality survey

ON THE ROAD

Aida Sevilla-Mendoza

DON'T SLIGHT KOREAN CARS any more. In the latest J.D. Power & Associates new-car quality survey in the United States, Hyundai Motor Co. leaped to No. 3 from No. 10 last year, overtaking Toyota Motor Corp. which was ranked No. 4.

The Wall Street Journal reported that it was the first time Hyundai made it to the top three nameplates in the study. The Korean car manufacturer was rated the leading nonluxury or mass market nameplate in terms of new-car quality, the top two rankings having been won by Porsche AG and Toyota's premium brand, Lexus.

Porsche's jump to No. 1 from No. 33 last year was also amazing, considering that Lexus had held the top spot for five years in a row. But Porsche's feat was somewhat eclipsed by the continued high rankings of Asian cars while some German and American brands lost ground.

Toppling

Toyota rose to fourth from seventh last year, toppling General Motors' Buick which plunged from No. 4 to a below-industrial average at No. 22. Ford Motor Co.'s Land Rover, which was nearly last in the 2005 survey, finally dropped to last place. Ford itself was ranked below the industry average for the second time in a row.

German marques did not fare much better. DaimlerChrysler AG's Mercedes-Benz and BMW both fell to below-average (No. 25 and 27, respectively) from top 10 rankings last year while Volkswagen was stuck at the bottom at No. 35 the second year in a row.

However, it should be noted that Jaguar, a British-bred premium badge of Ford, ranked No. 5 and two American GM marques—Cadillac and GMC—placed No. 7 and No. 9, respectively. Asian brands occupied the rest of the top 10 positions: Honda (No. 6), Nissan's luxury brand Infiniti (No. 8) and Honda's premium marque Acura, which tied for tenth place with Chrysler.

Oscars of quality

J.D. Power & Associates' Initial Quality Study is considered the Oscars of quality by automakers. The California-based consulting firm looks at problems that car owners report for the first 90 days of ownership, then breaks down the data for car manufacturers willing to pay for it and for the right to use the results in their advertisements.

This year, the survey was redesigned for the first time since 1998 to make it more relevant to today's motor vehicles which have faster production cycles. and are loaded with high-tech features such as DVD players and navigation systems. The new survey is based on questionnaire answers from 63,607 buyers and lessees of new 2006 models who were asked about 217 specific problems ranging from rear DVD-system playback to loose molding and peeling paint.

For the first time this year, J.D. Power divided the results into two categories: design quality, measuring things like the usefulness of dashboard displays and controls and production quality, measuring the level of defects and malfunctions. Porsche had a total of 91 problems per 100 vehicles, Lexus had 93 per 100 while Hyundai had 102 per 100.

Industry average

The industry average is 124 problems per 100 vehicles. Cellar dweller Land Rover posted 204 per 100. Lincoln and Nissan were tied for 11th place with 121 problems each per 100 vehicles while Chevrolet barely made the cut with 124 per 100.

Although Lexus lost pole position to Porsche, specific Lexus and Toyota models captured 11 out of 19 segment awards in the 2006 survey while Toyota topped five segment categories, including the Highlander SUV in the midsize multiactivity segment and the Camry in the midsize car category. As for sixth placer Honda, five Honda models ranked among the top three of their respective segments.

The generally poor showing of American brands compared to Asian marques is reflected in slumping May year-to-year sales figures amid soaring gas prices. Research firm Autodata Corp. says that the Big Three—GM, Ford and DaimlerChrysler—have lost market share to Asian cars while Toyota outsold DaimlerChrysler in the United States for the first time last April.

How to dry a wet car

Reuters reported two weeks ago that police in Amsterdam stopped a Dutchman who was driving at 108 kilometers per hour, 50 kph over the speed limit. The man, age 27, said he only wanted to dry his car after he had washed it. Since he did not have his driver's license with him, the police confiscated his clean car until he produces his license.

* * *

E-mail comments to asevilla@inquirer.com.ph

The Isuzu Mt. Apo 4x4 Drive

NOT ONLY to promote travel and tourism; IPC has shown how tough and dependable its vehicle were when driven to extreme road conditions.

Text and photos by Charles E. Buban

THE LOCALS CALL IT THE "EXECUTIVE route" not because it's the easiest but it's the only way that would allow our group to drive our Isuzu vehicles halfway up Mt. Apo in Mindanao and from the jump-off point reach the peak of the Philippines' highest mountain (at 3,142.9 meters above sea level) without feeling too wasted.

This is, so far, the most ambitious event that Isuzu Philippines Corp. has organized in recent years.

"During the last four years, IPC have made successful treks to challenging and exciting places including Mayon Volcano in Albay, Mount Pulag in Benguet, and Mount Pinatubo in Zambales. Not only to promote travel and tourism, we have showed how tough and dependable our vehicles were when driven to extreme road conditions that these places feature," said Arthur Balmadrid, IPC VP for corporate business.

To make the event possible, IPC coordinated with North Cotabato Gov. Manny Piñol (Mt. Apo is located in this province as well as Davao City and Davao del Sur) and engineer Ellsworth Lucero of the Philippine National Oil Company (whose Site G located 2,200 meters above sea level was used as the group's jump-off point in going to Mt. Apo's peak).

Seldom used

The executive route is seldom used and is closed to regular climbers after Mount Apo was again opened to climbers in March 2005. The mountain was closed to climbers in July 2000 to allow it to rehabilitate itself after 20 years of misuse by irresponsible climbers who had left tons of garbage, and defaced it.

"We now limit the number of climbers in Mount Apo. This Isuzu event is exceptional as we would like to show our media climbers the situation here in Mt. Apo and to help us disseminate what we are doing in protecting our natural treasure," said Kidapawan City Mayor Rodolfo Gantuanco.

Indeed, Mt. Apo is still in the process of healing itself and with the garbage still a concern, the group made sure all its refuse together with some of the trash encountered along the way is brought down the mountain.

"Excellent destinations and tough activities require excellent and tough vehicles. With this Mt. Apo event, Isuzu is further proving that we have vehicles—the Alterra and the D-Max—that can go anywhere and allow its owners to pursue their chosen hobby or interest," explained Balmadrid.

The Isuzu Mt. Apo 4x4 Drive is supported by Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corp. that provided Shell Diesoline Ultra fuel and Oceanic Containers Inc. that shipped the vehicles from Manila to Davao City and back.

LUCKY 9: Standing on the shores of Lake Venado (the country' s highest lake at 2,194.5 meters above sea level) and with Mt. Apo's majestic peak behind, these nine motoring journalists separated from the main group to venture the tougher route down the mountain.

Unique Makati; inspired Isuzu

FULL TANK

Al Mendoza

ON AYALA AVENUE IN MAKATI, Edsa-bound jeepneys can wait for passengers while parked along the main artery of the nation's main financial hub. They don't actually break a law as they are parked near zones reserved for loading and unloading passengers.

But how about this, fellas?

While in motion from past Buendia on the way to Edsa, a jeepney can suddenly stop to pick up a waving passenger. And here's the catch: The driver refuses to unload a passenger at the same spot where the incoming passenger is clambering up the jeepney.

"I'll be issued a citation ticket if I unload a passenger here," said a driver in Pilipino in response to the plaint of a passenger wishing to disembark.

"But how come you are not apprehended for loading a passenger in no-loading zone?" the passenger asked the driver.

"We only unload passengers on designated loading and unloading zones," the driver replied.

The passenger could only scratch his head, smiling wryly.

Traffic officials in blue (MMDA personnel?) abound on Ayala Avenue but hardly do they flag down jeepneys loading passengers on no-loading zones.

I wonder why.

Part of Makati's uniqueness?

In Makati, too, the rule on coding is in force from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., from Monday to Friday.

Makati is the only city in Metro Manila that doesn't recognize the "window coding," a system in which it disregards the rule on coding from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

To this day, many motorists, for one reason or another, get themselves apprehended in Makati for "coding violations" between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Many continue to wonder why Makati can so easily disobey the MMDA rule on "window coding."

Why the rest of Metro Manila towns and cities have not followed the Makati example also baffles the mind.

Still a question begging for an answer is: If Makati can ignore an MMDA rule, what's the MMDA for then?

Indeed, only in the Philippines.

* * *

Isuzu's domination of 22 countries in 2005 regarding vehicle sales with diesel engines included the Philippines.

Figures gathered showed Isuzu cornering 35 percent of the one-ton pickup category here, not to mention collaring 69 percent in the light-duty and medium-duty trucks and an astonishing 73 percent in the commercial vehicles that weigh at least 18 tons.

Also in the list were Japan (38 percent of two- to three-ton cab-over trucks), Thailand (38 percent of one-ton pickups and 37 percent in commercial vehicles), United States (73 percent of Classes 3 and 4 of imported cab over trucks) and Australia (22 percent of commercial vehicles that weigh at least four tons).

In said categories, Isuzu Japan had reigned supreme for five straight years, Thailand 23 years, US 20 years, Australia 17 years and the Philippines seven years in the light-duty truck category.

Hat's off to Isuzu!

* * *

QUOTE ME. There ought to be a law banning texting while driving.

* * *

Send comments to menju@pldtdsl.net.

Two liters of satisfaction

MY DRIFT

Andre Palma

HUMANS JUST HAVE TO FIND OUT what new things will bring; most times with the outcomes irrelevant to our search for the fulfillment of just knowing. Disappointment is commonplace when satisfying one's inquisitiveness but there are those few, special moments when being able to get an answer makes a world of difference.

Yet, curiosity and wonder are hard to come by, particularly with things that we are just so familiar with; hence my dilemmas for this week's test drive.

It would be quite the understatement to say that I'm merely familiar with the 8th generation Honda Civic. This is a car that I've encountered on and off, for a good part of almost a year, ever since having first tested and driven this model at Honda's Tochigi Research and Development Facility last October.

Fun and frugal

The 1.8-liter gasoline and 1.5-liter Integrated Motor Assist hybrid are cars that I enjoy driving, mostly for their firm fundamentals but mainly for their balance of everyday driving performance and sparing fuel consumption. Fun and frugal; how can one go wrong and want anything else? The proverbial monkey wrench comes in the hotter version of the current Civic, a car that has held my imagination for quite a long period of time.

The 2.0-liter K20 engine's numbers look decent when you first look at the brochure. Factory-claimed 155-bhp and 19.2-kg/m of twist are sufficient numbers that will convince even the less than inclined that there is at least some notion of power in this package. My advice though, is to chuck the brochure in the bin, and really go out and test-drive this car; the experience will probably move you, and in every conceivable sense of the word at that.

Gears

This is a car that reminds one of how fun it is to drive a capable automobile; something that I have admittedly almost forgotten over the last year. See, you take all the factors like the solid fundamentals, the able engine, add to that a decently spaced and sorted 5-speed manual gearbox and the outcome cannot be anything other than gratifying.

First and second gears are really suited for our metropolitan traffic congestion; with first just being a tad short and second able to handle most of what Manila has to offer. Third gear is very, very long; able to touch almost 145 kilometer per hour given enough road and driver conviction.

Fourth gear goes well beyond that, probably to an electronically limited speed that many should probably only imagine, while fifth gear does the overdrive duties for the transmission. The key to this gearbox is the way it maximizes the liberal amount of torque available, something that is surprising in a mass-market Honda engine.

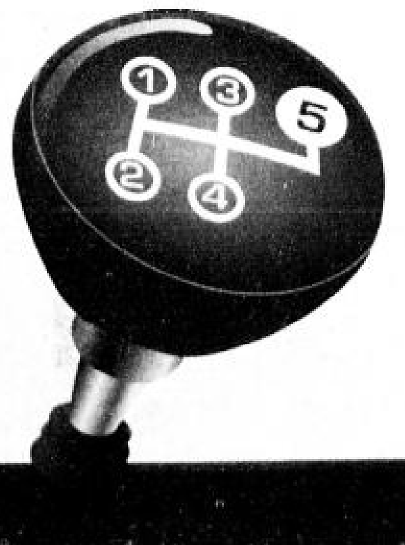
A couple of issues

When asking the Civic to turn, there are a couple of issues that come out, but nothing that is completely detrimental to the package. Let's just say that the combination of electric power steering, a heavier front end and tires that are more inclined for passenger comfort rather than canyon carving—induce a little vagueness to this car's cornering attitude.

Make no mistake; this is a car that enjoys to be driven enthusiastically. Maybe not in anyway as visceral like the EK and EG chassis of old but in a manner that is definitely more comfortable at the very least.

So did any problems arise after getting to know the 2.0-liter Civic better? Yes, just one: the fact that this is a car that has asked me to rethink my choice for a daily drive. I've always preached the gospel that frugal must go hand in hand with a car's ability to entertain, if something is to be considered as one's main mode of transportation. Fun is something the Civic provides in spades and this is an automobile that made me remember why I love to drive in the first place. Surprise, surprise!

Our Expansion is Running at Top Speed with
5 New Branches



- **BINONDO** - 354 Juan Luna St., Binondo, Manila (**Tel. 241-0420**)
- **PASIG BLVD** - Pasig Blvd., Kapasigan, Pasig City (**Tel. 610-1464**)
- **QUIRINO AVE.** - 2273 Pres. Quirino Ave., Paco, Manila (**Tel. 564-9956**)
- **SAN FERNANDO, PAMPANGA** - 7C-7D Greenville Subd., Olongapo-Gapan Rd., San Fernando, Pampanga (**Tel. 045-963-9309**)
- **SAN FERNANDO, LA UNION** - Quezon Ave., San Fernando, La Union (**Tel. 072-888-5066**)

Hotline: 895-9486 • 890-3913
Cel: 0917-8589522
Email: contactus@rapide.com.ph

Rapidé
AUTO SERVICE EXPERTS

OPEN FOR FRANCHISING

Get more value for your ₱

Place your money in Time Deposit

Deposit Amount In Pesos	Interest Rates % 30 days to 3 years
100,000 - 499,999	4.500
500,000 - 999,999	5.250
1.0MM - 4.99MM	5.500
5.0MM - 9.99MM	5.750
10.0MM and up	6.000

* 1,2 or 3-year term placement offers monthly credit of interest.
** Rates are on per annum basis and net of documentary stamp taxes.

Open an account now at any PSBank branch!

PSBank Peso TIME DEPOSIT

Text PSBANK PTD <your name> <landline no.> <email address> then send to 391-772 for Smart or 0917-8902327 for Globe and other networks.
Member of the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation. Maximum deposit insurance for each depositor P250,000.

ATTENTION: PARTY ORGANIZERS, EVENT PLANNERS, PARTY HOSTS, TOUR GUIDES, LECTURERS, NETWORK MARKETERS FOR PRODUCT DEMOS, TRADE SHOWS, CHILDREN'S PARTIES BAZAARS, CONFERENCES AND OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

P2,500

VOICE AMPLIFIER
TAKSTAR® DA-200
ISO-9001

Set Includes:
Voice Amplifier [illegible]
Handset Mic, Belt Strap,
220 Volt Charger, and 8 AA
Rechargeable Batteries.

Exclusively Distributed By:
VIDMAX Trading
187 Wilson Street, San Juan, M.M.
Tels. 7246615; 7268180; 7252318
Fax No. (632) 726-4558
Email: vidmaxtrading@yahoo.com

Available at the following **5th Avenue** branches:
- **Parksquare I** - Makati City, 817-8756 to 58
- **Alabang Town Center** - Alabang, Muntinlupa City, 772-2684
- **SM MEGAMALL** - Pasig City, 683-0745
- **SM NORTH** - EDSA, Quezon City, 925-4452
- **SHANGRI-LA MALL** - Mandaluyong City, 633-8315 to 17

Gov't serviced debts of up to ₱34.3B in Apr

From Jan to Apr, RP paid off ₱360.56B in liabilities

By Michelle V. Remo

THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT SPENT P34.323 BILLION FOR DEBT servicing in April, as fiscal authorities sustained efforts to reduce the country's liability as a means to improve credit image.

Data from the Bureau of the Treasury showed that, of the amount, P18.58 billion was used to pay off principal obligations while the rest P15.743 billion was allotted for interests on loans.

According to borrowing sources, domestic creditors accounted for P26.709 billion of the total debt servicing for April, while the remaining $7.614 billion was used to pay off foreign lenders.

The amount spent in April to pay off maturing obligations brought the government's total debt servicing for the first four months of the year to P360.558 billion.

This means the government already spent half of the P721.668 billion allocated for debt servicing for the entire year.

Domestic borrowings are undertaken usually through the auction of Treasury bills and bonds, while foreign loans come mostly in the form of official development assistance from multilateral agencies and foreign bond investors.

Debt servicing eat up a chunk of the government's annual budget. The government spends about a third of the national budget to pay off interest payments for its outstanding debts which, as of end-March, already stood at P3.962 trillion.

If principal debts are to be taken into account, the government spends about 80 percent of its revenues to service these obligations. Because of scant revenues, the government is obliged to undertake additional borrowings every year to service maturing loans.

Because of the need to continue borrowing due to the government's yearly budget deficits, interest payments have been increasing over the years. This year, spending for interest payments alone is programmed to reach P339.998 billion, representing a 13-percent rise from the P299.807 billion recorded last year.

However, the Department of Budget and Management earlier said that, starting 2007, the government's spending for interest payments would record its first decline since 1996 on account of a declining budget deficit.

The last time the government registered a decrease in interest payments was in 1995, when the budget allocated for it dropped to P72.65 billion from P79.12 billion.

A lower budget deficit means the government is becoming less of a credit risk, which encourages lenders to price in lower risk premiums.

3 companies expected to bid for Maynilad

By Christine A. Gaylican

THREE PRIVATE FIRMS HAVE SIGNIFIED their interest in acquiring the government's 84-percent stake in west concessionaire Maynilad Water Services Inc., according to authorities.

DMCI Holdings of the Consunji Group, the Ayala Group's Manila Water Company Inc., and a new unidentified consortium represented by the law firm of Romulo, Mabanta, Sayoc and Angeles have secured copies of bid documents each worth $5,000 from the bids and awards committee of the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System, said Macra Cruz, MWSS deputy administrator.

The state-owned MWSS set the minimum bid for its 83.97-percent stake in Maynilad at $60 million or about P3 billion, Cruz told the INQUIRER.

Oscar Garcia, board chair of Maynilad, yesterday reported that the Privatization Council had approved the terms of reference and instruction to bidders for the re-privatization of the west zone concession.

The Privatization Council is the government body tasked to oversee the disposition of government assets.

With the approval, prospective bidders may secure copies of bid documents from the MWSS from June 26 to July 10. The deadline for the submission of bid proposals is on Oct. 24, 2006.

The opening of the financial bids is set for Nov. 10. The Notice of Award is expected to be issued sometime before December after the Privatization Council confirms the award, Cruz said.

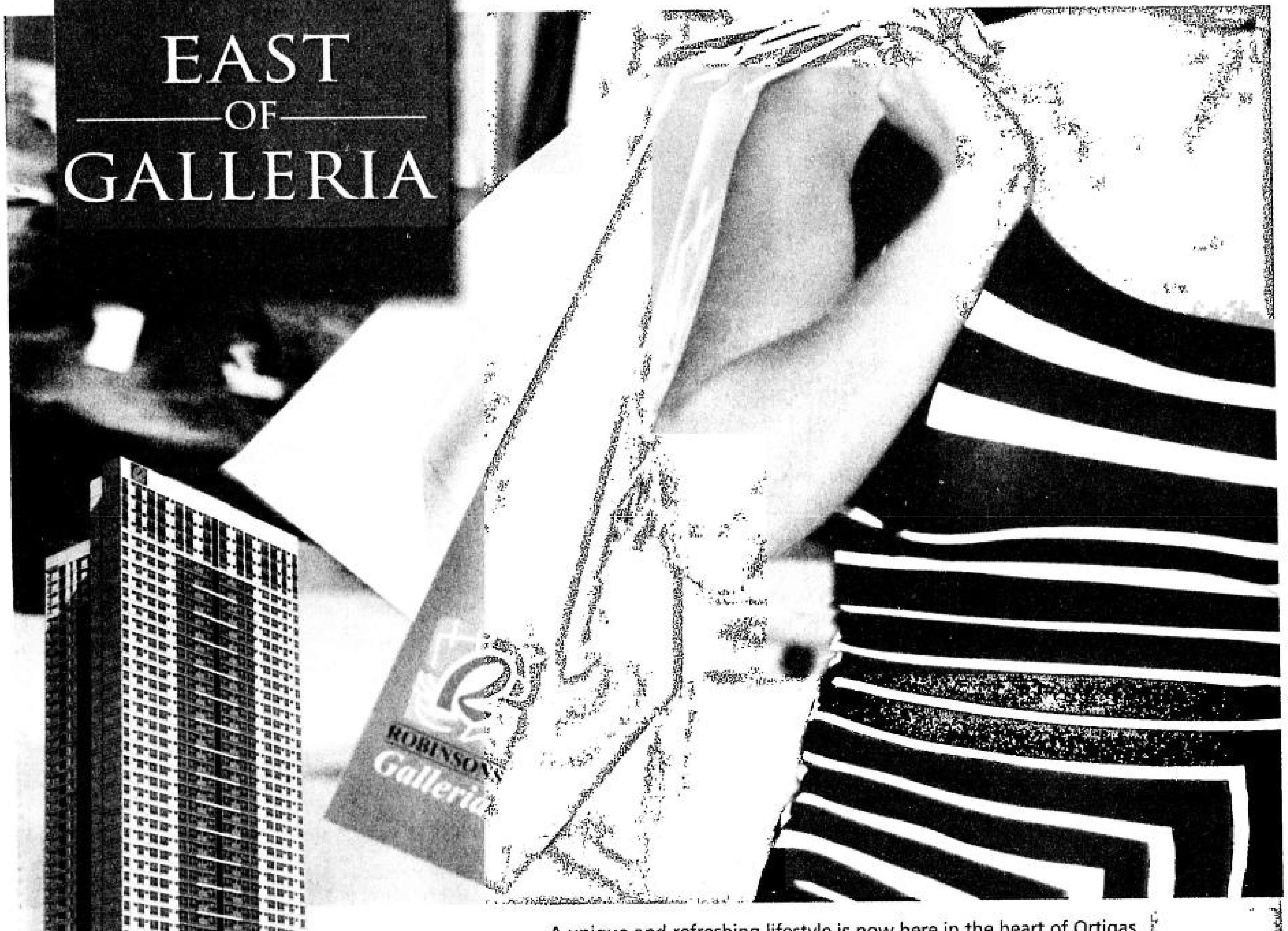
The winning bidder will take over and continue operations of the west zone for the remaining years of the 25-year concession.

Also, according to the Terms of Reference, the winning bidder will have to assume Maynilad's obligations under the Debt and Capital Restructuring Agreement (DCRA).

Maynilad, formerly controlled by the Lopez Group's Benpres Holdings Inc., last year recorded a net income of P2.2 billion. This was attributed to savings from lower interest charges and cuts in production costs, officials said.

EAST OF GALLERIA

A LEISURE STROLL TO *Galleria*



A unique and refreshing lifestyle is now here in the heart of Ortigas Center.

Welcome to East of Galleria, a 45-storey residential tower located in the midst of the bustling business district. It is conveniently located beside the very successful Robinsons Galleria Mall to cater to the residents' daily needs. Minutes away from major roads like EDSA and C-5, it is also within the vicinity of malls, banks, institutions and other major establishments.

East of Galleria truly embodies the ideal of comfort and convenience, offering the best of both worlds with the choice of either bi-level or loft-type units. Available in one, two and three-bedroom units, East of Galleria assures residents of utmost privacy in condo living as the master's bedroom is located a level above the dining, kitchen and living areas. High ceilings, airy atmosphere and expansive glass windows feature breathtaking views of the Wack Wack Golf and Country Club as well as a multitude of magnificent skylines.

At the heart of the busy city lies a comfortable and affordable home, here at East of Galleria.

SHANGRI-LA
WACK WACK GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB
EDSA
SM MEGAMALL
SM MEGAMALL
ST. FRANCIS
ST. FRANCIS SQUARE
ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK
SAN MIGUEL
DOÑA JULIA VARGAS AVENUE
GUADIX DRIVE
POVEDA
POVEDA
GALLERIA GOLF CENTER
ROBINSONS GALLERIA
TO GREENHILLS
PODIUM
ADB AVENUE
EL PUEBLO
TOPAZ
RUBY
OPAL
ROBINSONS EQUITABLE TOWER
HOLIDAY INN
HOLIDAY PLAZA
ORTIGAS AVENUE
EMERALD AVENUE
EXCHANGE ROAD
JADE DRIVE
PHIL. STOCK EXCHANGE
GARNET
ONYX
SAPPHIRE
MERALCO
MERALCO AVENUE
METROWALK
MC HOME DEPOT
THE MEDICAL CITY

FOR ANNOUNCEMENT PURPOSES ONLY

ROBINSONS LAND CORPORATION
The Property Developer of Choice

www.robinsonsproperties.com.ph E-mail: hrbdsales@robinsonsland.com

636-0888 • 0922-8380888

to be young • to be you • to be young • to be you • To be you!
2bU!

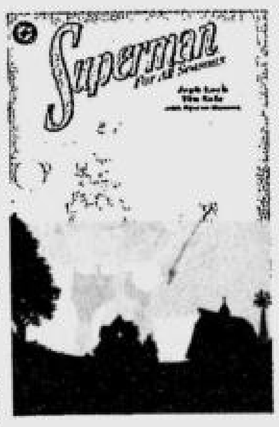
LifeStyle
Editor Chelo Banal-Formoso
Chief of Correspondents Pam Pastor
sms feedback: inquirer life name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) and 386 (Smart) or email us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

KICK OUT GOUT !!!
"Gout is a kind of arthritis specifically caused by too much uric acid in the joints. Uric acid maybe obtained from various dietary sources."
Call now!
For more information
1-800-10-6-HEALTH
(FREE OF CHARGE) 432584
or 637-48-90

Welcome back, Superman!

By Adrian Dy
2bU! Correspondent

SUPERMAN HAS returned! With what's sure to be a blockbuster summer film, interest in the Superman comics is expected to spike as well. But how do you know which book to invest your hard-earned money on? Let 2bU! and this guide help you decide.



Secret Origins

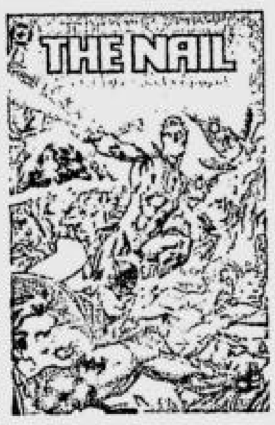
If there's one thing DC superheroes suffer from, it's the constant revamp of its universe's origins, leading to numerous changes in their origin stories.

Superman has not been exempt from this, leading to different variations on the classic story of the man from Krypton.

First off is "The Man of Steel" by writer/artist John Byrne. Fresh from his "Crisis on Infinite Earths," the former X-Men artist was tasked by DC to reboot the Superman mythos. He did so with a bang, reintroducing several key elements of the franchise like Red Kryptonite, the Phantom Zone, and the three Kryptonian villains prominently featured in the second Superman movie.

Also available is "Superman for All Seasons," by Jeph Loeb and Tim Sale, which takes a look at Superman's early life in Smallville and in Metropolis. The retro art by Sale is the perfect compliment to a story that harkens back to "the good old days" when Clark seemed to blush whenever Lois was around, and Luthor was always trying to take over Metropolis with goofy robots.

A couple of years later, a little TV show named "Smallville" came out and DC wanted Superman's history to match the series. Although " Superman: Birthright," by Mark Waid and Filipino artist Leinil Francis Yu, isn't completely compatible with the show, it does serve as a nice bridge by showing a twenty-something Clark begin his life as a journalist, and the events that would inspire him to become a superhero.



Previously in

Superman can't help but play a big part in DC's current company-wide storylines. "Sacrifice," a story arc that ran through all the monthly Superman comics and is now collected in trade paperback, saw the Big S brainwashed by former Justice League ally Maxwell Lord.

Though he believed he was under attack by some of his most powerful foes, Superman was actually fighting some of his allies, beating Batman to a near pulp and drawing Wonder Woman to a standstill. With no other options available to her, Wonder Woman was forced to break the cardinal superhero rule: "thou shalt not kill." Because of her actions, a rift formed between the Big Three of DC. It was the worst possible time, however, for such a rift to exist.

The "Infinite Crisis" monthly series saw the culmination of several years' worth of storylines. It served as the spiritual successor to DC's previous universe-altering series, "Crisis on Infinite Earths." It's hard to capture just what happened in a few short sentences, but it would suffice to say that seeing two Supermen battle it out with an insane Superboy should cause fans to wax ecstatic.

One Year Later

After the events of "Infinite Crisis," DC launched a company-wide gimmick entitled "One Year Later." All DC Comics storylines suddenly jumped a year ahead, creating a sense of mystery as to what exactly happened in that missing year.

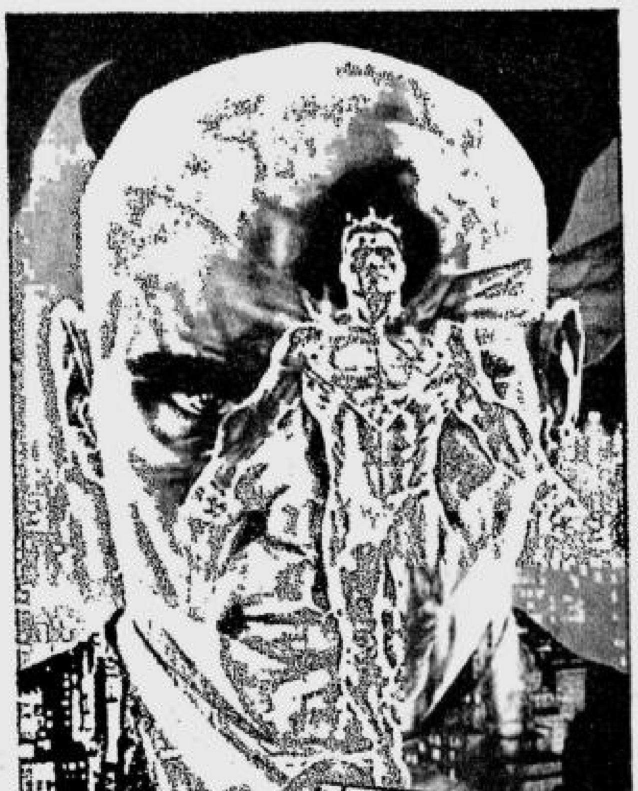
In the monthly "Superman and Action Comics," written by Geoff Johns and Kurt Busiek with art by Pete Woods, we see that Superman has lost his powers after Infinite Crisis and is now enjoying being Clark Kent 24/7. He may have to start wishing for those powers back, though, when Lex Luthor comes back to town with a Kryptonian battleship in tow and fresh plans of world domination.

Best of the rest

And speaking of Lex Luthor, fans of that bald megalomaniac (now played with such aplomb by Kevin Spacey in the new movie) might be interested to pick up "Lex Luthor: Man of Steel" by Brian Azzarello and Lee Bermejo. The series paints Lex in a sympathetic light, such that you begin to understand his side of the story and the reason he despises Superman so much.

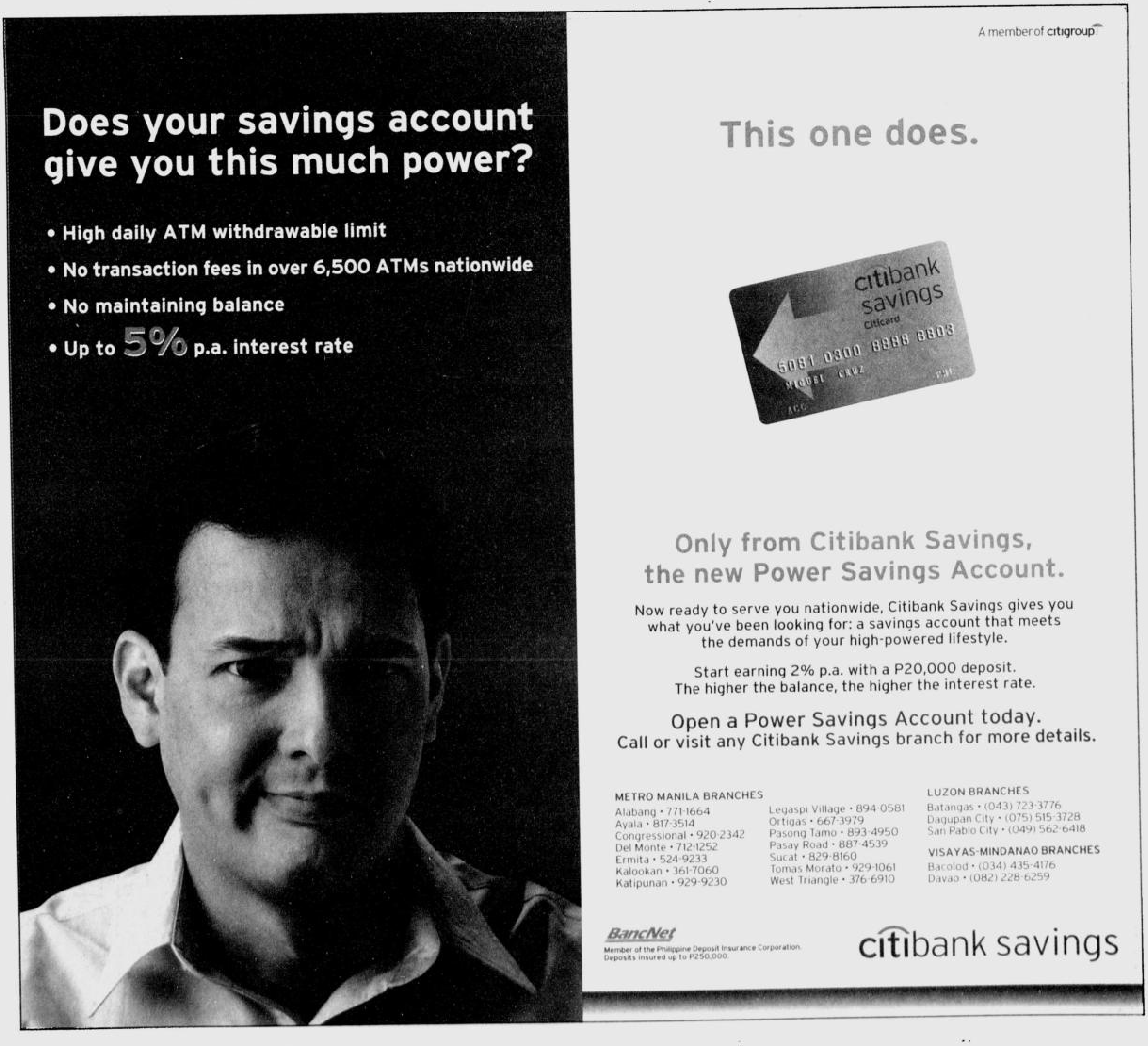
And if you're interested in bombastic splash pages and some of the best depictions of Superman in a long time, you might want to get the two volumes that comprise "For Tomorrow" by Azzarello again and with art by the one-and-only Jim

WELCOME/ C2



SUPERMAN
RED SON

A guide to some of the best Superman comics available out there



Does your savings account give you this much power?

- High daily ATM withdrawable limit
- No transaction fees in over 6,500 ATMs nationwide
- No maintaining balance
- Up to 5% p.a. interest rate

A member of citigroup

This one does.

Only from Citibank Savings, the new Power Savings Account.

Now ready to serve you nationwide, Citibank Savings gives you what you've been looking for: a savings account that meets the demands of your high-powered lifestyle.

Start earning 2% p.a. with a P20,000 deposit.
The higher the balance, the higher the interest rate.

Open a Power Savings Account today.
Call or visit any Citibank Savings branch for more details.

METRO MANILA BRANCHES
Alabang • 771-1664
Ayala • 817-3514
Congressional • 920-2342
Del Monte • 712-1252
Ermita • 524-9233
Kalookan • 361-7060
Katipunan • 929-9230
Legaspi Village • 894-0581
Ortigas • 667-3979
Pasong Tamo • 893-4950
Pasay Road • 887-4539
Sucat • 829-8160
Tomas Morato • 929-1061
West Triangle • 376-6910

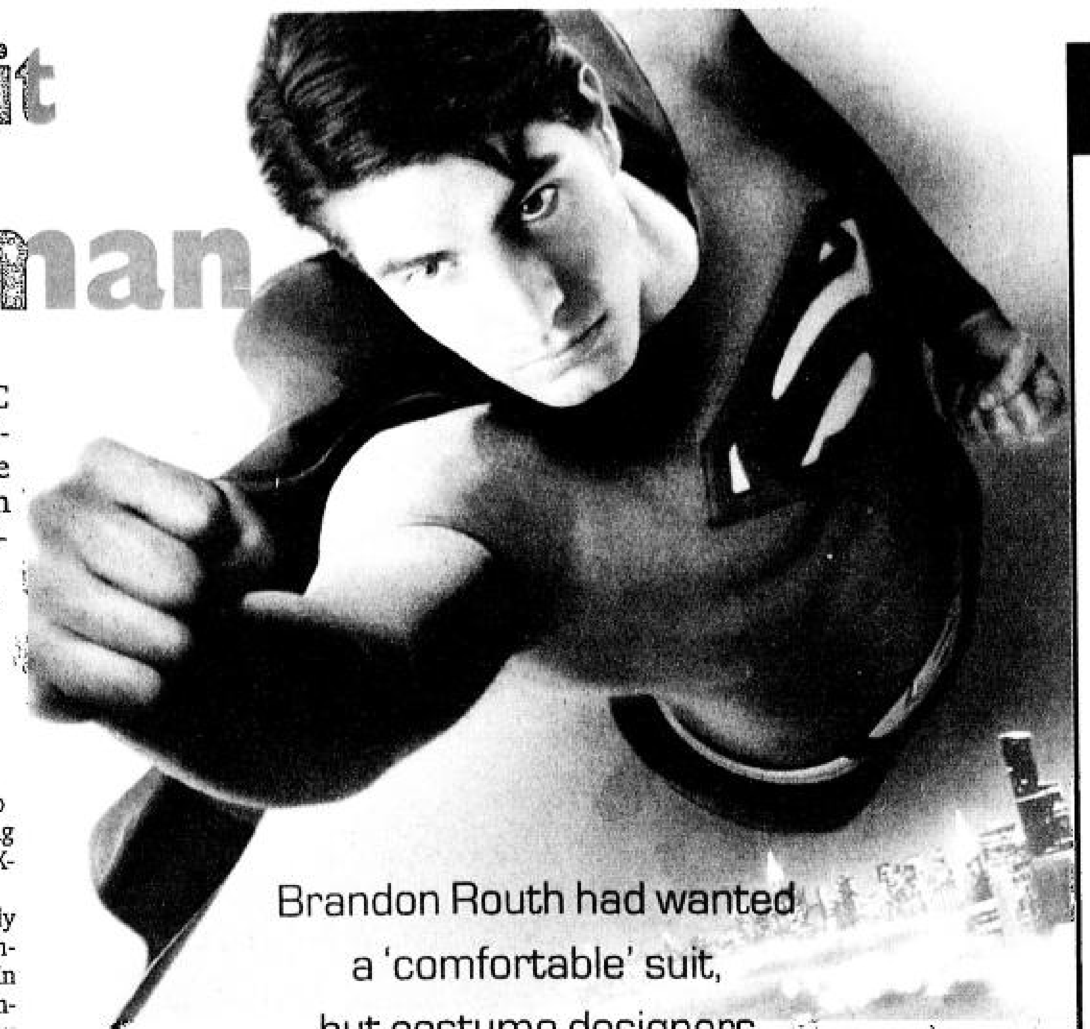
LUZON BRANCHES
Batangas • (043) 723-3776
Dagupan City • (075) 515-3728
San Pablo City • (049) 562-6418

VISAYAS-MINDANAO BRANCHES
Bacolod • (034) 435-4176
Davao • (082) 228-6259

BancNet
Member of the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation.
Deposits insured up to P250,000.

citibank savings

Super suit for Superman



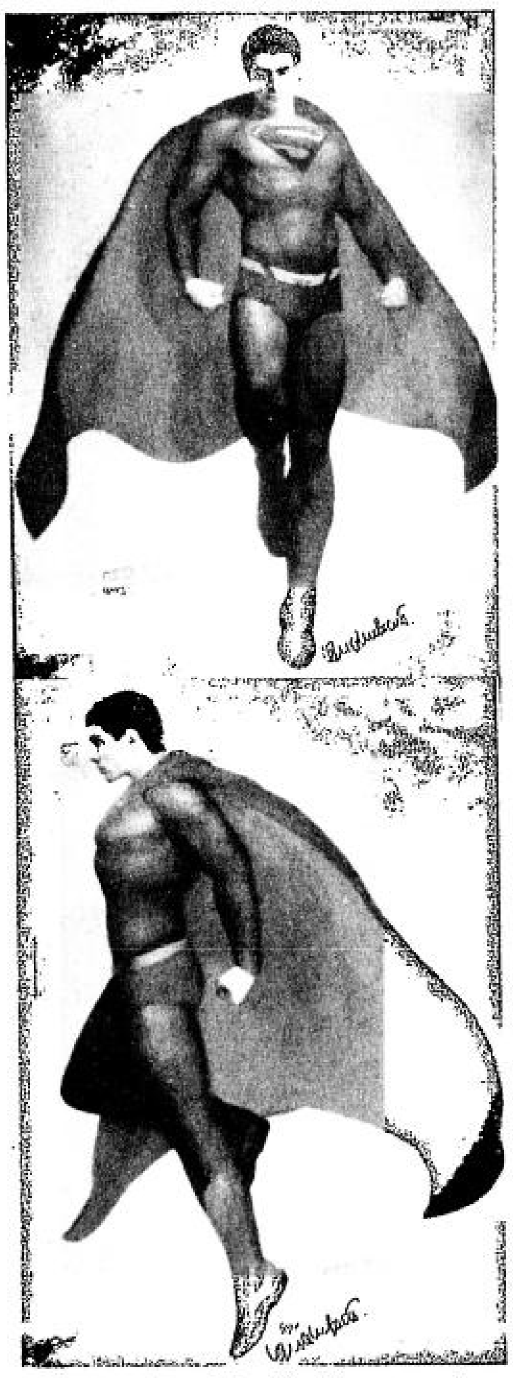
Brandon Routh had wanted a 'comfortable' suit, but costume designers told him comfort was not what being a superhero was all about

A BLENDING OF CLASSIC and cutting-edge technology went into designing the costume of the Man of Steel in Warner Bros.' new action-adventure movie, "Superman Returns."

Director Bryan Singer wanted the suit not only to reflect the iconic image of Superman that has survived over the ages, but also to bring a contemporary edge to the character.

"I remember the first day Brandon Routh, who plays Superman, came in," said costume designer Louise Mingenbach, who is no stranger to superhero wardrobe, having designed the costumes for both of Singer's X-Men movies.

"I remember him saying that it was really important to him that the costume be comfortable so as not to be distracting for him in any way. Of course, never meaning to be insensitive, I just laughed and said, 'Baby, you are never going to be as uncomfortable in your life as you will be in this costume. It is not easy being a superhero and being one is certainly not about comfort.'



BRANDON Routh lived in this costume for a few months.

"It was really kind of sweet, actually," said Mingenbach, "because, at that point, Brandon really didn't know what he was getting into."

What he would practically live in for the next few months was a dyed-blue, skin-tight fabric called Milliskin under which a contoured "muscle suit" would be worn.

"Because the Milliskin is so tight, it flattened Brandon's natural musculature that he had been working very hard to develop so we, in turn, had to develop the muscle suit in order to give back some of his body's natural shape and contours," said Mingenbach.

CLARK and Lois. Brandon and Kate Bosworth

The costume's famous "S" shield is made of a molded latex relief that was then laser-cut with thousands of tiny "S" insignias.

The cape's lining was made of wool and especially milled in France. It was then given an ombre treatment which gives the center of the cape its vibrant red color. The outside of the cape was then "rubberized to give it some texture and weight," said Mingenbach. "So you can see why there would be nothing comfortable about wearing two skin tight suits and a 10-pound cape on top of it all."

Brandon's intensive workout

To inhabit the suit as Superman, Routh would need to undergo intensive physical training, which began practically before he knew he had the part.

While in Los Angeles, Routh trained with Gudni Gunnarsson. "The few months of training in L.A. were basically about getting in shape to get in shape," Routh said. "It was all about training my body to endure the stress of heavier lifting later on in Australia."

Once in Sydney, Routh began working with Australian trainer Michael Ryan, who put the actor through near-superhuman rigors.

"The workouts started out tough and always stayed tough," Routh recalled. "Many times I felt more like an athlete than an actor."

"Hanging 50 feet in the air or holding my breath 15 feet below water wearing a very constricting costume put tremendous stress on every part of my body, especially when we did those scenes all day long for many days in a row. As crazy as it sounds, I adjusted and my body got used to it."

The average day was heavy weightlifting for an hour or more, running and then on to wardrobe fittings, hair and makeup tests and camera tests.

"I learned a lot, I achieved a lot and I gained an incredible amount of confidence in myself thanks to the expertise of everybody around me," Routh said.

Opening across the Philippines on June 28, "Superman Returns" is distributed by Warner Bros. Pictures, a Warner Entertainment Company.

SUPERHERO, super strength

Superman movie premiere

SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS IS sponsoring a premiere showing of "Superman Returns" that will be attended by top personalities, celebrities, press people and key Samsung dealers and consumers.

The event is part of Samsung's current global directions that redefines the Korean electronics giant as an icon brand.

Sepco president and CEO Spencer Shim said Superman represented integrity, substance and strength of character, core values that guided Samsung in its undertakings, particularly in the production of consumer products.

ELEGANT contours and rounded edges define the intriguing design of the Samsung SGH-D520.

Samsung has also launched a special edition of handheld phones (preloaded with Superman java games, wallpapers, ring tones and movie trailers) and MP3 players (preloaded with the Superman soundtrack, wallpapers and screensavers) complete with premium items. The company has also lined up in-store activities and sales promos for Filipino fans of Superman.

The new Superman movie is top-billed by newcomer Brandon Routh, in the role of the super hero. The movie, directed by Bryan Singer, also stars Oscar winner Kevin Spacey and Kate Bosworth.

FEATURING SGH-D520's 1.3 Megapizel Camera

SGH D520's Slim and Narrow Design

Welcome back...

From page C1

Lee. While the story is confusing, to put it mildly, Lee is at the top of his game here, and having him draw an issue-long battle between Wonder Woman and Supes is a definite bonus.

If it's a good story you want, though, look no further than comics god Alan Moore, of "Watchmen" and "V for Vendetta" fame. In the compilation "DCU: The Stories of Alan Moore," are two of the best Superman stories, "Whatever Happened to the Man of Steel?" and "For the Man Who Has Everything."

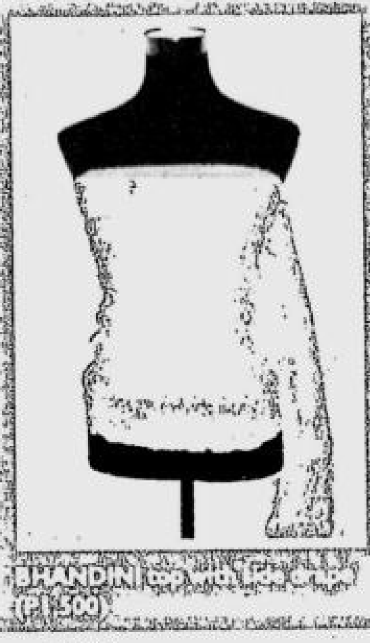
And finally, if you're looking for a "twist" to the classic Superman stories, DC's Elseworld's alternate reality stories just might be what you're looking for. "JLA: The Nail" by Alan Davis is a look at a world where Jonathan and Martha Kent failed to discover Superman's crashed spaceship because their car had a flat tire. As a result, we now see a world where Lex Luthor runs around unchecked and the Justice League fights for public approval.

"Superman: Red Son" by Mark Millar, on the other hand, shows a world where Superman's spaceship crashes into Russia, instead of Smallville, Kansas. Communism never had it any better than in this story, with Cold War intrigue leading to a deadly standoff between Russia's Superman and American super soldiers led by Lex Luthor.

While this guide has highlighted some of the best Superman comics available, there's still a wealth of trade paperbacks available featuring the Man of Steel, not to mention his participation in the Justice League, the team-up book "Superman/Batman," and the quirky "All-Star Superman."

Luckily for us, Superman fights a never-ending battle, which only means more cool stories for us to read.

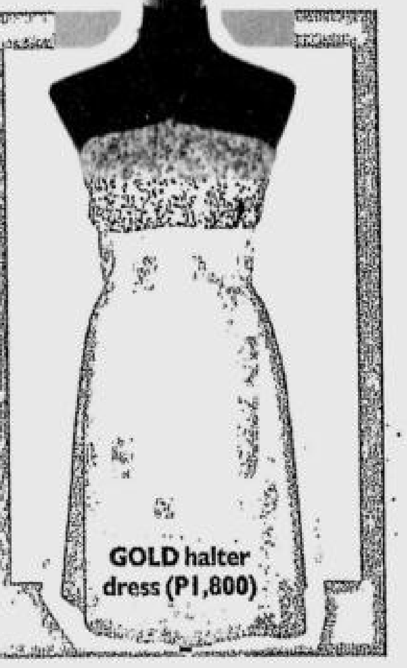
BLUE lycra draped top (P1,600)


BHANDINI top with side drape (P1,500)

YELLOW georgette tunic with pink border (P900)

RAW silk corset with beads (P2,000)

GIRAFFE-PRINT halter top (P900)


GOLD halter dress (P1,800)

India in Manila

By Cheryl Tiu
2bU! Correspondent

INDIAN FASHION IS QUITE the rage overseas. With its vibrant colors, lavish embellishments and intricate details, Bollywood-inspired fashion has made its mark on international haute couture.

Now, thanks to young designer Madhuri Hemandas, it has reached local shores.

Born and raised in Manila (though she has also lived in the Canary Islands and the Ivory Coast), Madhuri has always had an eye for the beautiful, from shiny and colorful toys to rich and striking clothes. It certainly wasn't a surprise that she eventually went into fashion.

In 2003, a year after graduating with a Communications degree at Ateneo de Manila University, Madhuri packed her bags for Milan. She spent eight months at the Instituto Marangoni where she learned pattern-making and designing, and most importantly, thinking out of the box.

It was her overall experience living in Milan that inspired her. "Just sitting on a bench watching people taught me a lot about fashion. You would see [a lot of] women cycling in high heels, preferring to look good over being comfortable."

In June 2004, just a few months after she got back from Milan, Madhuri left for Mumbai (formerly Bombay), as she had always wanted to get into Indian fashion. She took a course at the B.D. Somani Institute of Fashion and Technology and had the opportunity to present one of her designs at a fashion show. She was heavily influenced by the city, especially from watching TV and Bollywood movies and flipping through Page 3, the society page of The Bombay Times, a fashion and lifestyle supplement of the Times of India.

"There's so much fashion and you can see all the socialites wearing what's 'in' at the moment. In fact, people would refer to them as 'Page 3 girls,'" she says. Madhuri also paired up with a friend and organized an exhibition-bazaar for their collection, Kitsch, which ran for three days. It was a hit, with almost everything sold out.

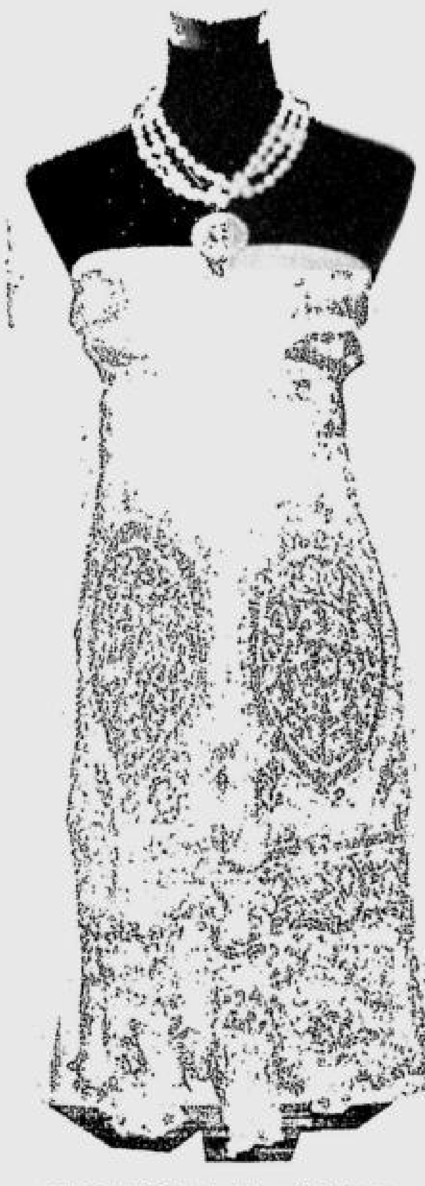
Now back in Manila, Madhuri is busy showcasing her creations to the Philippine Market. She describes her style as "mixing and matching—and creating a new style out of it." Her bestsellers so far are her unique and colorful bandhini dresses, an ancient method of tie-dyeing with nails, beads, grains, coins or stitches originating from the Indian states of Gujarat and Rajasthan.

Re-popularized by a legendary Indian designer, Ritu Beri, the bandhini is a favorite of many designers who continue to find new and inventive ways of using tie-dyed fabrics.

Madhuri's creations are a testament to her continuing affinity for the beautiful.

"That is always the idea in every piece I make. Each and every one of my designs has to be beautiful," she says.

Call 0917-8812235 or e-mail madhuri328 @yahoo.com



BACKLESS tube bhandini dress (above, P3,800); polka-dot net skirt (right, P900)

BHANDINI dress (P3,800)

Don't miss out on life's little moments!

Have you ever come inside from a smoke-break to find you've missed out on a great conversation or funny joke? Have you ever missed out on a picture-perfect moment of your child because you just couldn't resist the craving any longer? Have you ever found yourself running embarrassingly late to a social event because you had to have "one last cigarette" before you left the house?

"Smoking can be addicting. Cigarettes fulfill the criteria for substance dependence as they deliver significant amounts of nicotine which is a positive reinforcer. When a person quits the habit, he experiences several withdrawal symptoms during abstinence which is only relieved by nicotine administration," explains Dr. Daniel Tan, president of Tobacco-Free Philippines.

Nicotine is one of over 4,000 substances found in cigarette smoke. It's a common misconception that it causes cancer but it does not. Instead, it is the other substances in cigarettes that are mainly responsible for bringing physical damage to your body. Nicotine in cigarettes is what makes it so hard to stop smoking.

A Welcome Arrival

This is where the Nicorette (nicotine) gum comes in. It is a form of Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT) that has assisted thousands of smokers around the world for over 20 years to beat the habit by controlling their cravings. Now smokers need only chew mint-flavored and sugar-free Nicorette gum to provide their body with just enough nicotine to reduce the cravings.

Dr. Lenora Fernandez, Clinical Associate Professor at the Department of Medicine at the UP College of Medicine, welcomes the arrival of Nicorette in the country. "The availability of a pharmacological treatment like the Nicorette gum will further boost the country's smoking cessation programs. The use of Nicorette along with a stop smoking program will definitely increase success rates of those who want to quit smoking." And Dr. Fernandez should know. She is also the Consultant Coordinator of Philippine General Hospital's Comprehensive Ambulatory Respiratory (CARE) Program and Stop Smoking Program.

Don't think cigarettes. Think Nicorette.

Nicorette gum is highly recommended for people who need to relieve their withdrawal symptoms because they want to stop smoking immediately, or want to reduce smoking gradually, then quit.

It works by releasing nicotine into the saliva and is absorbed through the lining of the mouth. Its effect is a noticeable decrease in both the cravings and withdrawal symptoms that a smoker goes through when trying to quit. Nicorette and willpower combined doubles one's chances of quitting successfully.

By using Nicorette when cravings strike, smokers can get on the path to giving up smoking and focus on their pastimes and hobbies, stay in the company of their friends and families and enjoy life to the fullest.

ADVT.

Mint flavor/Sugar-free
Smoking Cessation Aid
30 pieces
nicotine
nicorette
medicated chewing gum

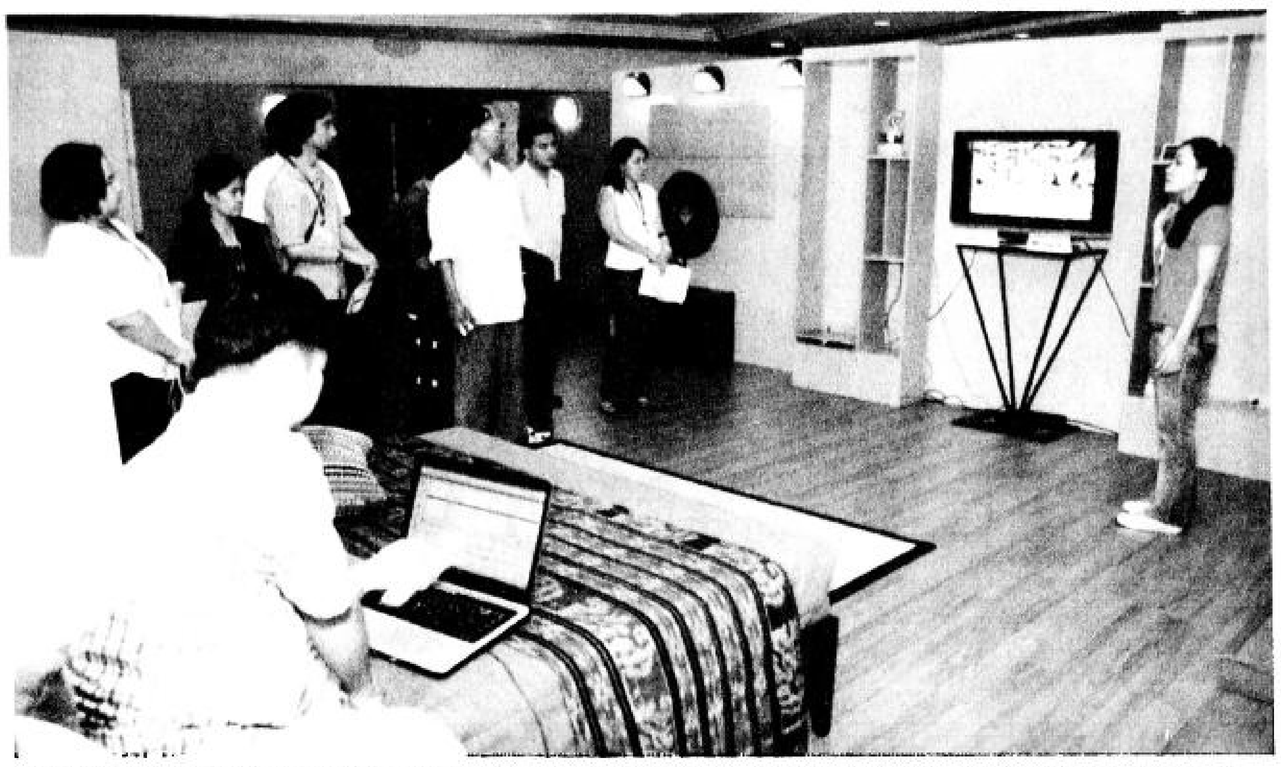
Missing out?
Don't think cigarettes. Think Nicorette.

It's time to get the most out of life. Quit the easy way with the most popular Nicotine Replacement Therapy worldwide. Nicorette (nicotine) gum is a smoker's companion in the difficult process of quitting. Unlike confectionary gum, it's clinically proven to help control cravings, doubling your chances of successfully beating the addiction. Get started now and enjoy life more.

Chew and park: 1. Chew a piece of gum when you feel the urge to smoke. 2. Chew slowly until the taste becomes strong and allow nicotine to be taken in through the lining of the mouth. 3. Then stop and rest the gum between gums and cheek. 4. When the taste fades, chew a few times until the taste gets strong then rest the gum again. Requires will power. Always read label. Ask your pharmacist and doctor for advice. Visit the Nicorette booth and www.nicorette.com.ph. Available without prescription only at mercury drug

THIS dad works on his laptop while he watches his favorite basketball game.

The 'Smart Home' allows for connectivity in the domestic setting, but with a warm touch



A MICROSOFT Junior demonstrates how to turn PC mode to TV mode using Microsoft Windows Media Center, an all-in-one PC and entertainment center.

Feeling at home—and connected

By Gabriel H. Mercado
2bU! Contributor

LAST MONTH, VISITORS TO THE Software Innovations Philippines exhibit at Shangri-La Hotel Makati were treated to a unique event: a showcase by the Philippine software sector of business processes, mobile connectivity and personal lifestyle practices.

The exhibit featured a mock-up of a house adorned with all sorts of technological trimmings; it was called the "Smart Home."

The Smart Home featured a working living room, dining area and kitchen, bedroom, lounge and even bathroom, where a modern family could enjoy connectivity and automaton. Featured in the rooms were the technological advances from such big names as Microsoft, LG Philippines and Intel.

To start with, kitchen appliances such as the washing machine and interactive refrigerator by LG ran on Microsoft Windows, and could be controlled by other PCs running on Windows as well, including those on a PC, PDA or Smartphone.

In the living room, and bedrooms, the Windows Media Center running on Intel Hardware was also on display; it could be accessed simultaneously on different TV sets around the house.

The Media Center was also notable for its ability to store great amounts of content, including pictures, movies, videos and even favorite TV shows for later viewing or archiving. These are all easily controlled by any of several methods within the house, via the TV itself, a mobile device, and of course, the PCs.

Gaming is, of course, available with the Xbox 360, in full working order at the living room, which, incidentally, had an engrossed, dazed teenager oblivious to the world.

Utility, practicality

Is a Smart Home practical here?

Dan Silvestre of DA Silvestre & Associates, architect of the Smart Home, explained that a Smart Home "will vary widely in relation to user preferences, budget, level of automation required, energy consumption/cost, climate and other parameters."

He added that in most of the industrialized countries, energy management and climate control are essential in home living.

Silvestre also noted that in the Philippine setting, practical applications of a Smart Home have more to do with how we deal with the weather: "In a predominantly hot, humid climate like what we have in the Philippines, cooling and ventilating a home will normally be the primary objective of climate-control and energy-management systems. Smart home technology can easily account for what we call active cooling by the use of automated controls for air-conditioning, electric fans and the like."

The exhibit also championed the use of "high-tech/high-touch," or human intervention in technology. Silvestre said this is "an integration of software, not just with hardware, but with people, which is still after all, our greatest Filipino resource."

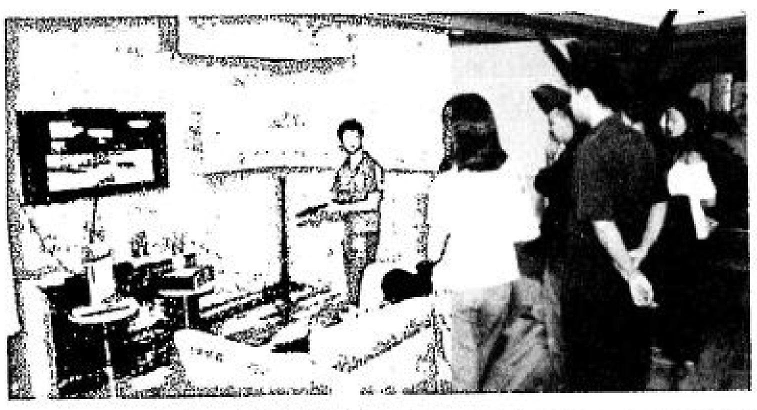
As an example, Silvestre explained how a PDA or computer can remind the tenants when it's time to open certain doors, windows, vents or adjust shades at a certain time and angle to optimize the cooling of the house, in lieu of robotics or machines which he said are expensive, require maintenance, and, in a country which usually has household help, largely unnecessary.

To be sure, a Smart Home with all its hi-tech functions such as reporting and inventory is almost an occasion for humor. During the tour, we were informed that the LG Refrigerator could reportedly issue a notice via the Internet to mention how much inventory of any particular food was left, which would allow the wife to check her spouse's diet. This elicited guffaws from the crowd.

However, what is important to remember here is that the Smart Home aims to introduce home technology in both software and hardware aspects, and that these technologies are actually available already.

As Silvestre said, "The smart home concept was not intended to showcase a Filipino smart home of the future. It was intended to illustrate a Filipino smart home of today. The technology exhibited is the technology of today, albeit with a cutting edge."

JOSINE Bustalino of Microsoft Philippines tosses the Xbox 360 to MTV VJ KC Montero.

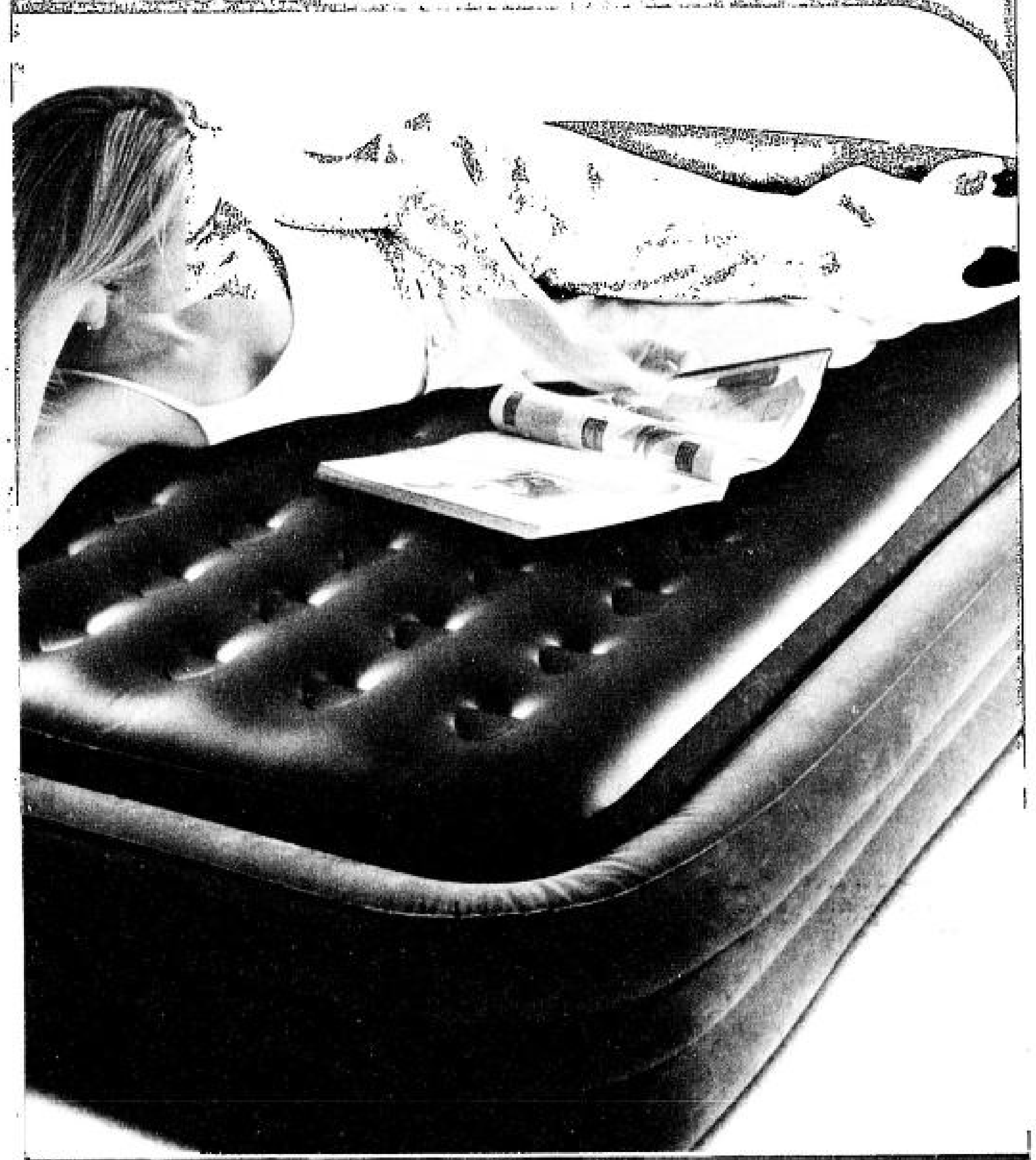


DURING Software Innovations Philippines 2006, Microsoft exhibited the all-new Xbox 360 game console for the first time in the Philippines.

MTV VJs (from left) KC Montero, Marc Abaya, and Cindy Kurleto having fun with the Xbox 360

SECOND district of Cavite Rep. Gilbert Remulla and Rep. Simeon Kintanar, chair of the Committee on Information and Communications Technology (standing, fourth and fifth from left), get a tour of the Digital Home with Microsoft Philippines developer and platform lead Stanley Tan and Microsoft Southeast Asia president Chris Atkinson.

Air Bed by INTEX®



sm megamall • sm city fairview • sm city bacoor
sm southmall • sm city pampanga • sm city iloilo
sm city lucena • sm city baguio • sm city marilao
sm city dasmariñas • sm city batangas
sm city cagayan de oro • V-mall greenhills
sm city sta. rosa • sm clark • mall of asia

our Home
great designs.great prices.

Canon
Delighting You Always

BK
PGBK
Y
M
C
PUSH

GENUINE CANON INKS GIVE YOU...

FREE T.L.C. FOR YOUR CANON PRINTER.

Caring for your printer starts with not using fake, refill and compatible inks. Use only Genuine Canon Inks, and you extend your love for your printer by getting a chance to extend its warranty to 6 months!

Each time you buy a Canon Ink or Paper Packs, just peel off the attached sticker to get a stub. Two collected stubs will be your ticket to a 6-month warranty extension for your Canon printer. Just send the two stubs by mail or email to Canon Marketing Philippines. Now that's easy, free T.L.C.

ChromaLife100 FINE Smart genuine

Promo period: June 1 - August 31, 2006.
See promo flyers for details. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3073 Series of 2006.

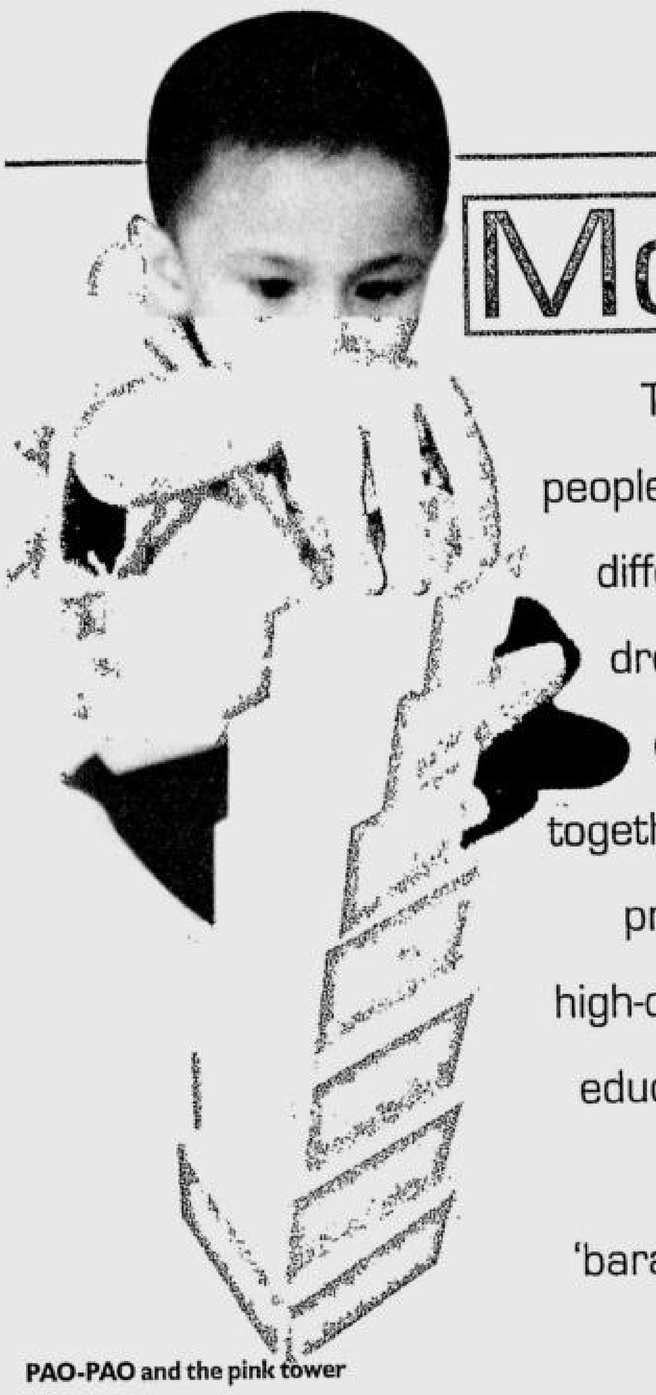
Canon Marketing (Philippines), Inc. 2F Marvin Plaza, 2153 Don Chino Roces Avenue cor. V.A. Rufino St., Makati City
Tels. 884-9000 • Fax. 810-9797 • info@canon.com.ph • www.canon.com.ph

LIFESTYLE

to be young • to be you • to be young • To be you! • 2bU

E-mail us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

Text us your feedback:
inquirer life name/age/city/message to
2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)



PAO-PAO and the pink tower

Montessori for the masses

Three people with different dreams come together to provide high-quality education to 'barangay' kids

Text by Pam Pastor
Photos by August de la Cruz

THE SHARING area

ARCHITECT ROBERTO "Matty" Perez once helped build a Montessori school in Quezon City. Since then, it had been his dream to create something similar for his own community. Barangay captain Andy Abundo had plans of building a daycare center for the children in his *barangay*.

Meanwhile, teacher Pao, a Montessori educator, had resisted the pull of working abroad because of her desire to help mold Filipino children into responsible people.

"But the question was, how do you apply a Montessori way of teaching in a *barangay*?" Matty said.

Deciding to go beyond dreaming and to start moving, Matty talked to Andy and Pao, Matty's tennis buddy. The two responded to the idea with enthusiasm.

"Education is one service that you cannot deny. All children have the right to education, and if the *barangay* can give a high standard of education, why would I say no? It was my dream also," said Andy.

Soon, the three were working on their project. It wasn't easy—they were met with doubts and questions. But they stayed focused on their goal—to provide a Montessori education for the *barangay* kids at a more affordable price.

The *barangay* office offered support by giving space and manpower. Teacher Pao trained volunteer teachers for six months.

They also spent a lot of time preparing special school materials—essentials in a Montessori school. Because these materials cost a lot of money—and because a lot of them need to be ordered from the US, the group had to be resourceful. Pao and Matty drew the materials and asked carpenters to make them.

By luck, Pao discovered materials made by "differently abled" people, allowing the school to help both the kids who would use the materials and the people who made them.

The hard work paid off. "If you're really fighting for a cause, *hindi ka talaga matatalo*," said Andy.

Their three dreams turned into reality in 2004, when the doors of Barangay Marilag Kindergarten for Literacy (BMKL) opened its doors for the children in the community.

The school, located in Project 4, Quezon City, offers a Montessori education for kids of preschool age.

But the challenges didn't stop there. The turnover of teachers was too quick because

MONTESSORI/ D3

sun CELLULAR PREPAID
Todo Na Talk!
with
P30
7 days
sun SULIT Calls
1 hour of Sun-to-Sun calls!
Now available in call cards!
sun CELLULAR
ONE HOUR of SUN-to-SUN CALLS FOR ONLY P30.

Here's how to enjoy Sun Sulit Calls:
1. Sun Cellular Prepaid Subscribers may now enjoy one (1) hour of Local Sun-to-Sun calls for only P30 with Sulit Calls. That's P0.50/minute!
2. Sun Sulit Calls may be purchased via the following:
   - Via Physical Call Cards
   - Via Electronic PINs (E-PINs) purchased in convenience stores like Shell Select, Mini-Stop or 7-Eleven
   - Via SMS: Text VOICE<space>1, then send to 223
   - Via The Mall: visit The Mall>Mall Assistant> My Account>Prepaid>BuyVoice>VOICE 1
     * For purchases via SMS and The Mall, you will need to have at least P30 regular load to convert to Sun Sulit Calls.
     * Upon successful purchase of Sun Sulit Calls, you will receive a text message confirming your purchase with loading instructions and validity.
3. Upon successful loading, you will receive a text message reflecting your Sun-to-Sun call minutes & the corresponding validity.
4. To check your remaining Sun Sulit Call minutes and expiry, dial *221# and press SEND.

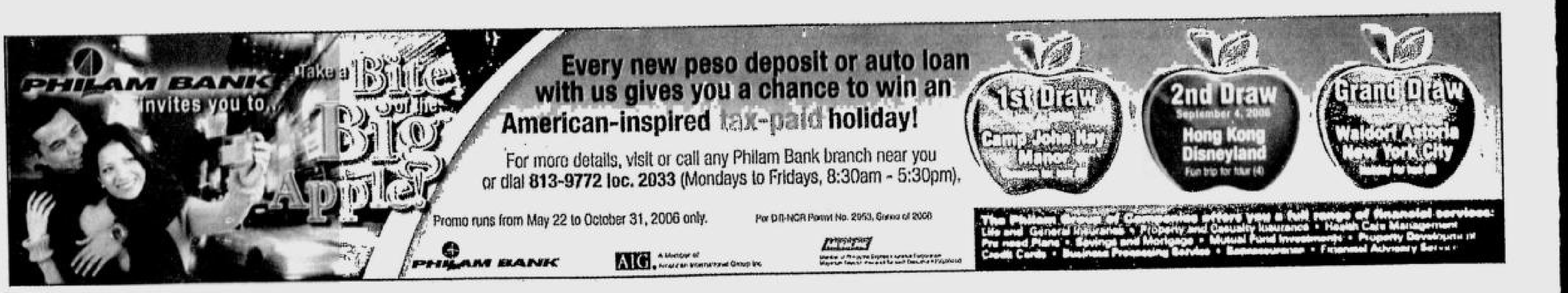
IMPORTANT REMINDERS:
- To maximize your Sun Sulit Calls, make sure you do not have 24/7 Call & Text Unlimited and Daylite Call & Text Unlimited.
- If you are still enjoying the pre-loaded service of your newly activated Sun Cellular Prepaid SIM (SIM with 7 days of 24/7 Call & Text Unlimited or 12 days of Daylite Call & Text Unlimited), load your Sun Sulit Calls after the free service expires.

- Get more Local Sun-to-Sun minutes when you combine Sun Sulit Calls with any of the following:

Sun SULIT Calls 1 Hour of Local Sun-to-Sun Calls (valid for 7 days) + Unlimited Local Sun-to-Sun Texts and 4 Hours of Local Sun-to-Sun Calls (valid for 30 days) = 5 Hours of Local Sun-to-Sun Calls & Unlimited Local Sun-to-Sun Texts (valid for 30 days)

Sun SULIT Calls 1 Hour of Local Sun-to-Sun Calls (valid for 7 days) + Unlimited Local Sun-to-Sun Texts & 1 Hour of Local Sun-to-Sun Calls (valid for 7 days) = 2 Hours of Local Sun-to-Sun Calls & Unlimited Local Sun-to-Sun Texts (valid for 7 days)

Sun SULIT Calls 1 Hour of Local Sun-to-Sun Calls (valid for 7 days) + Unlimited Local Sun-to-Sun Texts (valid for 2 days) = 1 Hour of Local Sun-to-Sun Calls (valid for 7 days) & Unlimited Local Sun-to-Sun Texts (valid for 2 days)



Every new peso deposit or auto loan with us gives you a chance to win an American-inspired tax-paid holiday!

For more details, visit or call any Philam Bank branch near you or dial **813-9772 loc. 2033** (Mondays to Fridays, 8:30am - 5:30pm).

Promo runs from May 22 to October 31, 2006 only.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2953, Series of 2006

PHILAM BANK

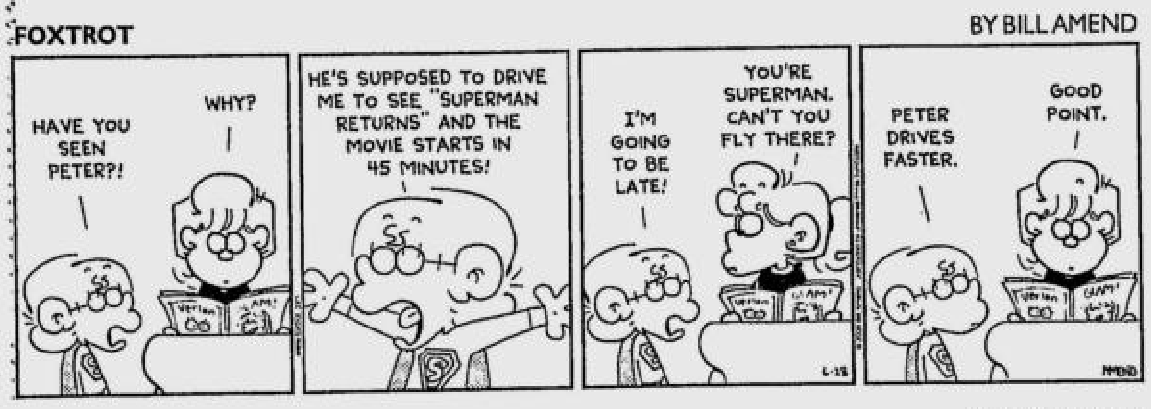
AIG A Member of American International Group Inc.

The Philam Group of Companies offers you a full range of financial services: Life and General Insurance • Property and Casualty Insurance • Health Care Management • Pre need Plans • Savings and Mortgage • Mutual Fund Investments • Property Development • Credit Cards • Business Processing Service • Bancassurance • Financial Advisory Service

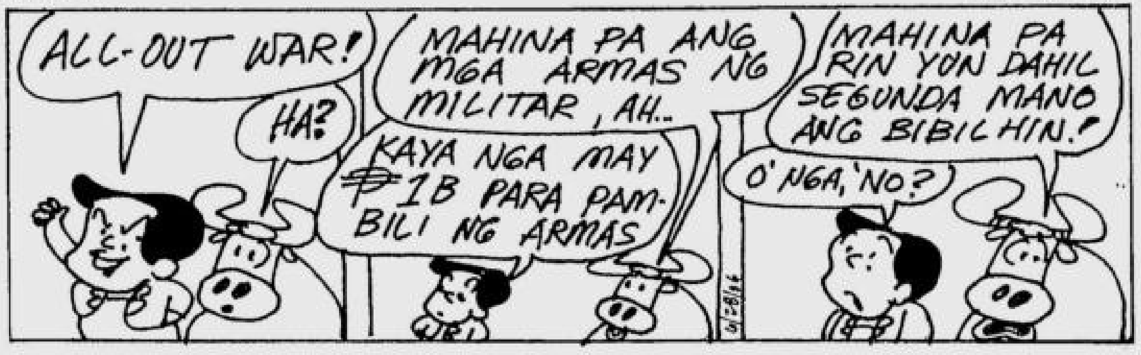
ComicRelief

e-mail feedback at arts@inquirer.com.ph

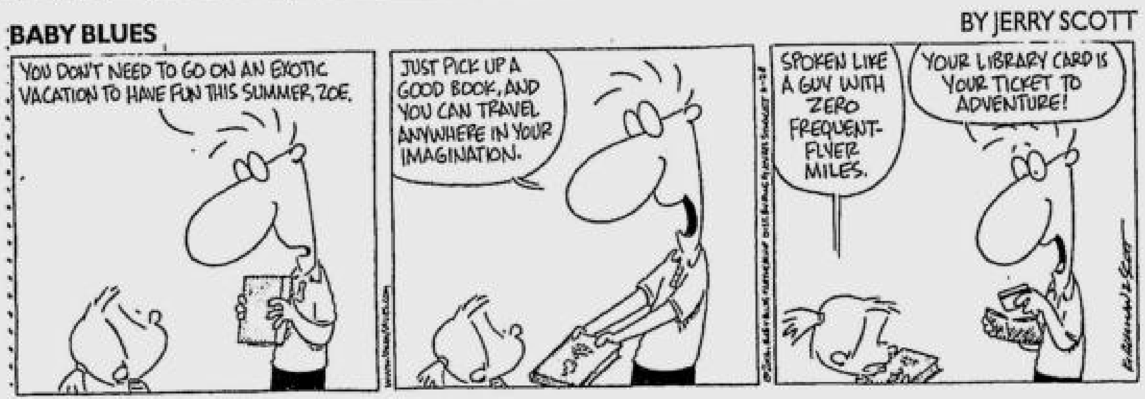
FOXTROT BY BILL AMEND


HAVE YOU SEEN PETER?!
WHY?
HE'S SUPPOSED TO DRIVE ME TO SEE "SUPERMAN RETURNS" AND THE MOVIE STARTS IN 45 MINUTES!
I'M GOING TO BE LATE!
YOU'RE SUPERMAN. CAN'T YOU FLY THERE?
PETER DRIVES FASTER.
GOOD POINT.

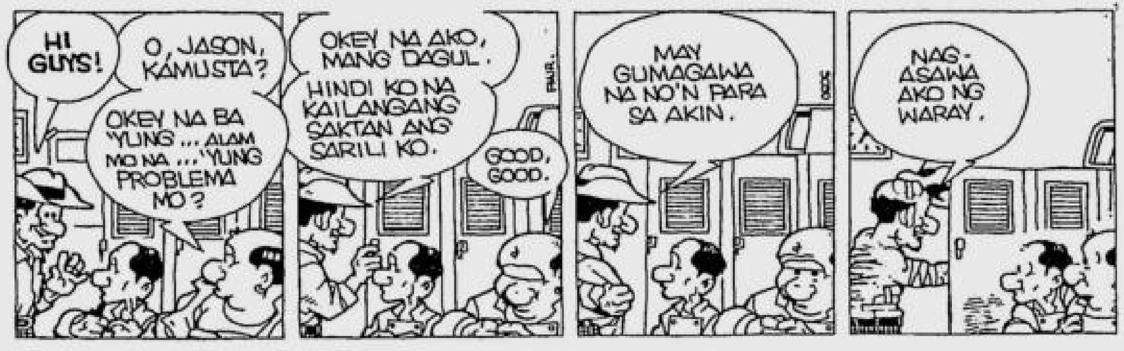
A. LIPIN BY JESS ABRERA


ALL-OUT WAR!
HA?
MAHINA PA ANG MGA ARMAS NG MILITAR, AH..
KAYA NGA MAY ₱1B PARA PAMBILI NG ARMAS
MAHINA PA RIN YON DAHIL SEGUNDA MANO ANG BIBILHIN.!
O' NGA, 'NO?

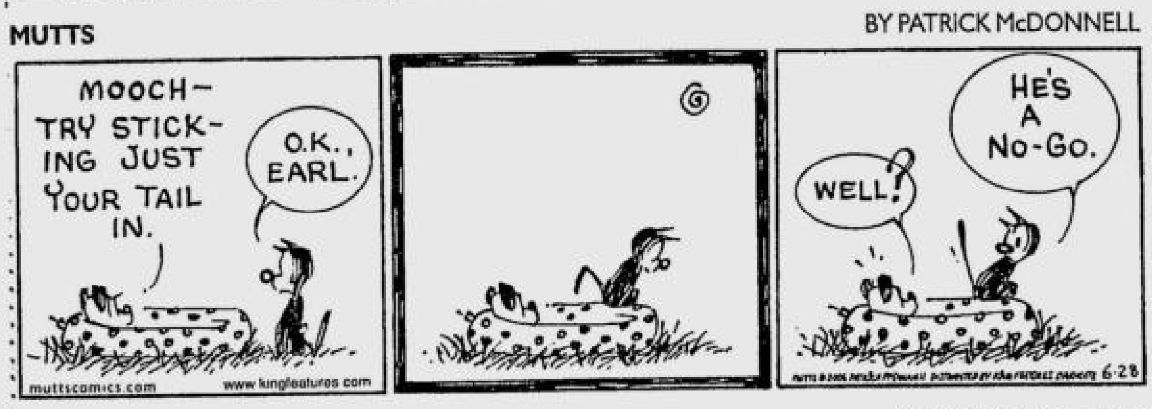
BABY BLUES BY JERRY SCOTT


YOU DON'T NEED TO GO ON AN EXOTIC VACATION TO HAVE FUN THIS SUMMER, ZOE.
JUST PICK UP A GOOD BOOK, AND YOU CAN TRAVEL ANYWHERE IN YOUR IMAGINATION.
SPOKEN LIKE A GUY WITH ZERO FREQUENT-FLYER MILES.
YOUR LIBRARY CARD IS YOUR TICKET TO ADVENTURE!

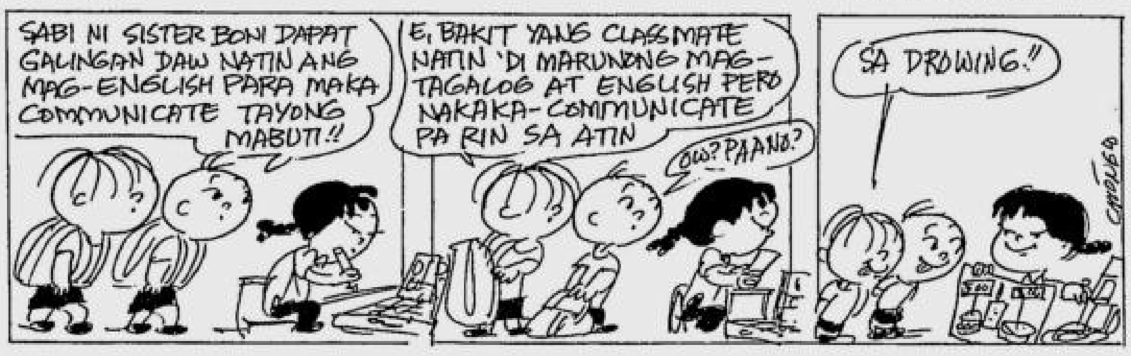
PUGAD BABOY BY P.M. JUNIOR


HI GUYS!
O, JASON, KAMUSTA?
OKEY NA BA 'YUNG ... ALAM MO NA ... 'YUNG PROBLEMA MO?
OKEY NA AKO, MANG DAGUL. HINDI KO NA KAILANGANG SAKTAN ANG SARILI KO.
GOOD, GOOD.
MAY GUMAGAWA NA NO'N PARA SA AKIN.
NAG-ASAWA AKO NG WARAY.

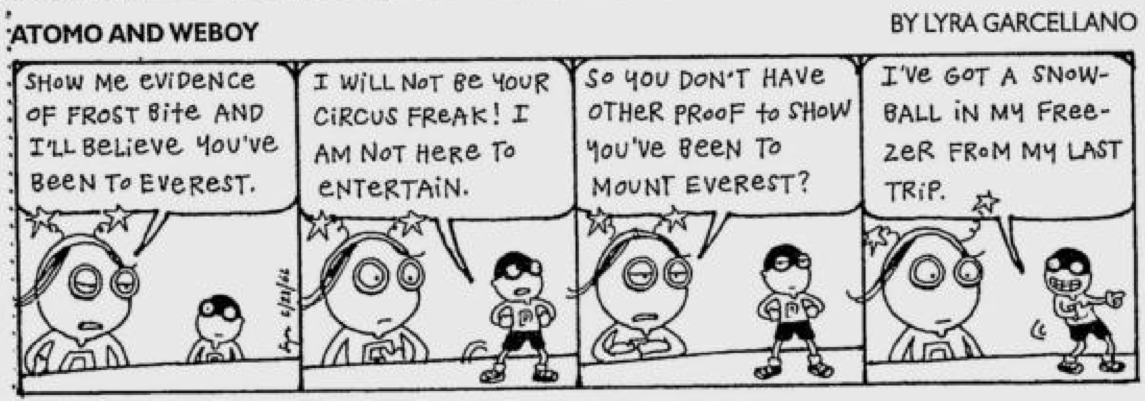
MUTTS BY PATRICK McDONNELL


MOOCH— TRY STICKING JUST YOUR TAIL IN.
O.K., EARL.
WELL?
HE'S A No-Go.
muttscomics.com
www.kingfeatures.com
6-28

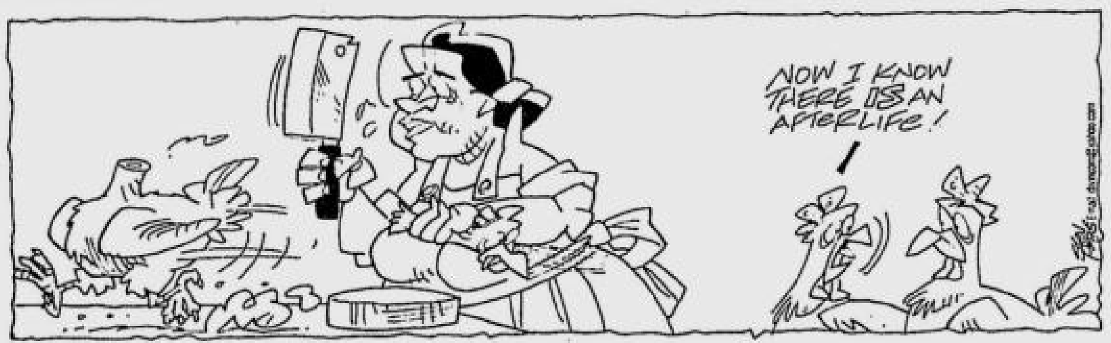
LOVEKNOTS BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


SABI NI SISTER BONI DAPAT GALINGAN DAW NATIN ANG MAG-ENGLISH PARA MAKA COMMUNICATE TAYONG MABUTI!!
E, BAKIT YANG CLASSMATE NATIN 'DI MARUNONG MAG-TAGALOG AT ENGLISH PERO NAKAKA-COMMUNICATE PA RIN SA ATIN
OW? PAANO?
SA DROWING.!!

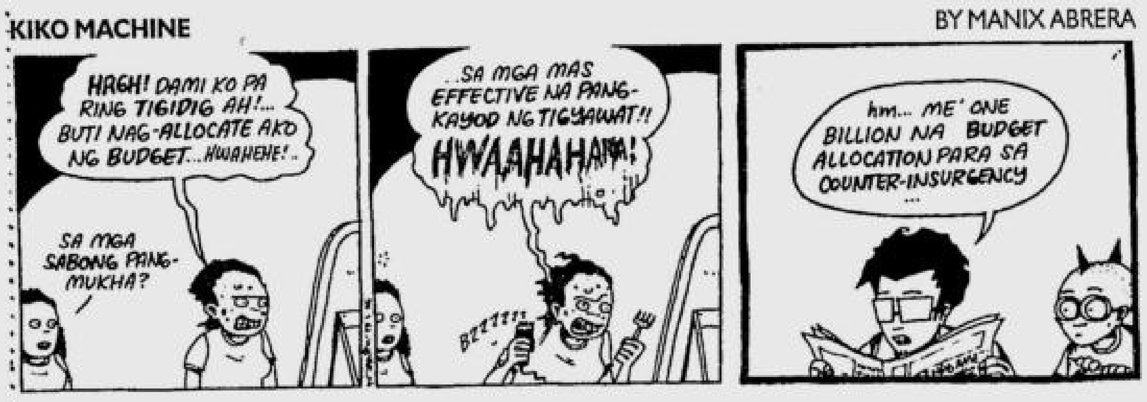
ATOMO AND WEBOY BY LYRA GARCELLANO


SHOW ME EVIDENCE OF FROST BITE AND I'LL BELIEVE YOU'VE BEEN TO EVEREST.
I WILL NOT BE YOUR CIRCUS FREAK! I AM NOT HERE TO ENTERTAIN.
SO YOU DON'T HAVE OTHER PROOF TO SHOW YOU'VE BEEN TO MOUNT EVEREST?
I'VE GOT A SNOWBALL IN MY FREEZER FROM MY LAST TRIP.

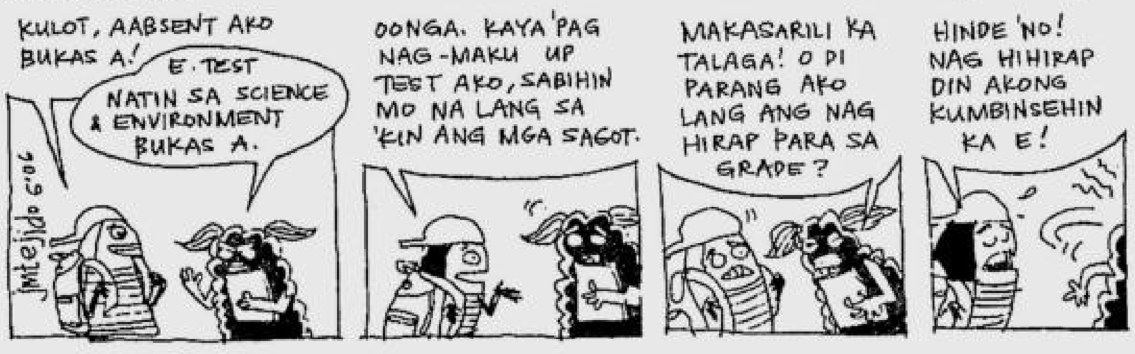
DIVINE COMEDY BY STEVEN PABALINAS


NOW I KNOW THERE IS AN AFTERLIFE!

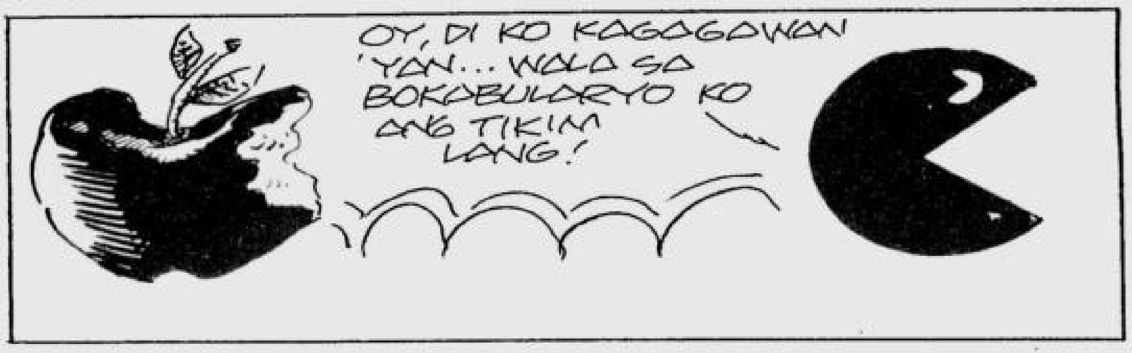
KIKO MACHINE BY MANIX ABRERA


HAGH! DAMI KO PA RING TIGIDIG AH!.. BUTI NAG-ALLOCATE AKO NG BUDGET...HWAHEHE!..
SA MGA SABONG PANG-MUKHA?
..SA MGA MAS EFFECTIVE NA PANG-KAYOD NG TIGYAWAT!!
HWAAHAHAHA!
BZZZ!!!
hm... ME' ONE BILLION NA BUDGET ALLOCATION PARA SA COUNTER-INSURGENCY ...

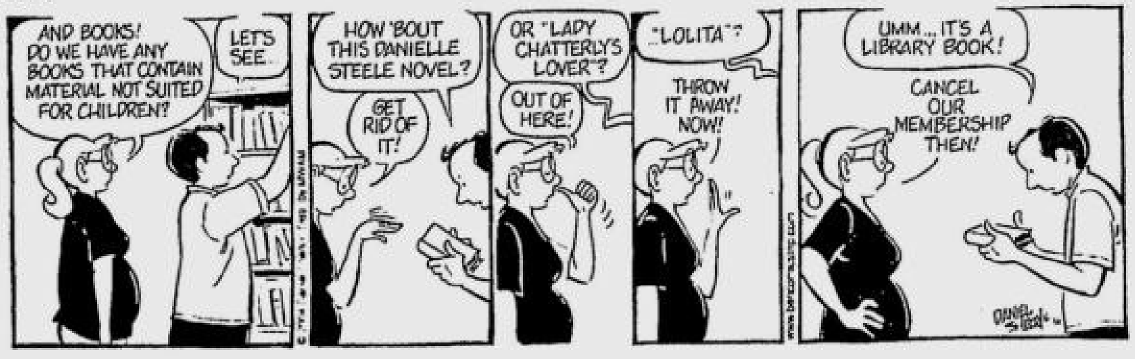
MIKROKOSMOS BY JOMIKE TEJIDO


KULOT, AABSENT AKO BUKAS A!
E. TEST NATIN SA SCIENCE & ENVIRONMENT BUKAS A.
jmtejido 6'06
OONGA. KAYA 'PAG NAG-MAKU UP TEST AKO, SABIHIN MO NA LANG SA 'KIN ANG MGA SAGOT.
MAKASARILI KA TALAGA! O DI PARANG AKO LANG ANG NAG HIRAP PARA SA GRADE?
HINDE 'NO! NAG HIHIRAP DIN AKONG KUMBINSEHIN KA E!

TULDOK BY PAPU AND TATUM MILAMBILING


OY, DI KO KAGAGAWAN 'YAN... WALA SA BOKABULARYO KO ANG TIKIM LANG!

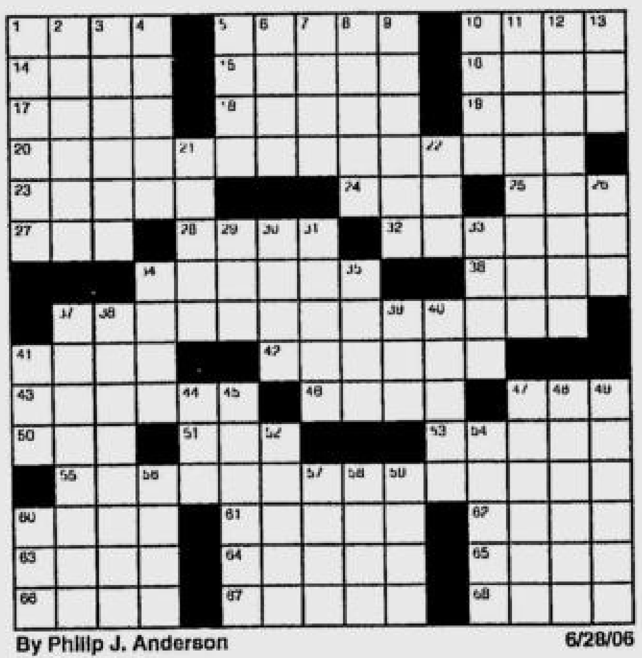
BEN BY DANIEL SHELTON


AND BOOKS! DO WE HAVE ANY BOOKS THAT CONTAIN MATERIAL NOT SUITED FOR CHILDREN?
LET'S SEE.
HOW 'BOUT THIS DANIELLE STEELE NOVEL?
GET RID OF IT!
OR "LADY CHATTERLY'S LOVER"?
OUT OF HERE!
"LOLITA"?
THROW IT AWAY! NOW!
UMM... IT'S A LIBRARY BOOK!
CANCEL OUR MEMBERSHIP THEN!

DAILY CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 Eurasian vipers
5 First vice president
10 __ Nui (Easter Island)
14 Grub
15 Sauna wear
16 Pitcher Hershiser
17 Barrett or Jaffe
18 Create big hair
19 Old Atlanta arena
20 So-so sailor?
23 Minutes taker, perhaps
24 From 1/1/06 'til now
25 Sumo surface
27 Russ. or Lith., once
28 Steakhouse specification
32 Tranquil
34 Mississippi city
36 Poker payment
37 So-so perps?
41 Binary digits
42 Queen of mysteries
43 Lists of candidates
46 Salty drop
47 Posed
50 Startled response
51 Old DJ's stack
53 Horse opera
55 So-so nicety?
60 Gumbo veggie
61 Silver Ghost, briefly
62 Piccadilly Circus statue
63 Get the better of
64 Sports transaction
65 Back-to-school mo.
66 Concept in Caen
67 Waste conduit
68 Hurl

DOWN
1 On the other side of
2 Bermudas, e.g.
3 Consider
4 Young shepherd
5 __ boy!
6 Active one
7 Not at home
8 Disorderly
9 Falls as ice
10 Chamber
11 Preparation for war
12 Triangular flags
13 Rope-a-dope poet
21 Water wheel
22 Sidewalk stand offering
26 NFL prop
29 That's __ folks!
30 Wine choice
31 Rejoice
33 Risque
34 Boom's counterpart
35 Man or Capri
37 Revealed, as a mystery
38 Pipefish's cousin
39 Soup type
40 Wrong call
41 Spanish bear
44 Shade tree
45 ESPN element
47 Old sound system
48 "__ Fables"
49 Secret meetings
52 Sleep soundly?
54 Banned big bang
56 Aussie's amigo
57 Talon
58 Ye __ Shoppe
59 Kind of friendly?
60 Kimono sash


1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65
66
67
68

By Philip J. Anderson
Portland, OR

6/28/06

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

D	R	A	W	■	A	D	D	S	■	O	L	I	V	E
R	I	M	E	■	T	R	A	P	■	C	O	N	E	S
E	V	I	L	■	H	O	V	E	■	C	I	T	E	S
G	E	T	T	H	E	P	I	C	T	U	R	E	■	■
S	T	Y	■	U	N	I	T	■	O	P	E	R	A	S
■	■	■	A	L	A	N	■	T	R	Y	■	L	I	P
A	C	C	R	A	■	■	B	U	S	■	P	U	R	R
W	H	A	T	S	T	H	E	B	I	G	I	D	E	A
A	I	M	S	■	H	U	E	■	■	R	E	E	D	Y
I	V	E	■	P	E	G	■	H	O	E	S	■	■	■
T	E	L	L	E	R	■	Z	I	N	C	■	A	S	S
■	■	H	E	R	E	S	A	T	H	O	U	G	H	T
B	E	A	T	S	■	L	I	M	A	■	L	A	I	R
A	M	I	G	O	■	I	R	A	N	■	N	I	N	A
H	U	R	O	N	■	M	E	N	D	■	A	N	E	W

(C)2006 Tribune Media Services, Inc.
All rights reserved.

6/28/06

HOROSCOPE

YOU BORN TODAY: You're dynamic and interested in many things. You appreciate the arts and have cultivated interests. You garner the respect of others. You have excellent people skills. You know what you want and you get it! Powerful people fascinate you. In your mid-50s, your love of art and beautiful things increases. A friendly, social year awaits you. Romance can blossom!

Birthdate of: Kathy Bates, actress; Mel Brooks, actor/director; John Cusack, actor

ARIES (March 21 to April 19): During the next two to three weeks, enjoy working with arts and crafts. You are the artisan of the zodiac. Working creatively with your hands gives you a sense of satisfaction.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20): Family discussions will be productive in the next month. Invite the gang over, or visit your parents. Wrap up family business and enjoy good times.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20): Today your ruler, Mercury, moves into the sign of Leo. This brings added drama and activity to your life for the next month! You've got things to do, people to see and places to go.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22): Like Taurus, you're never casual about money. In the next three to four weeks, you'll be full of moneymaking ideas. You'll also focus more on your cash flow.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22): Today Mercury moves into your sign and goes retrograde on July 4. Stay on top of car repairs. Expect mixed-up communications in the next month. Checks in the mail will be late. (Buy jumper cables.)

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22): Because so much is taking place right now, you need some time alone to sort things out. Give yourself some solitude. Work behind the scenes if you can.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): You're busy schmoozing with old friends, groups, clubs and organizations. You're out there flying your colors for the next three to four weeks. Enjoy!

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): Right now, Mercury is at the top of your chart, bringing you into contact with previous jobs, bosses and old opportunities for the next month. (Could be a second chance!)

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21). You love to travel. In the next month, travel plans will be delayed or canceled. Double-check everything. This also applies to publishing, the media and higher education.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19): This is not a good time to divide things among others. If you're dealing with shared property or jointly held possessions, make sure you defend your own best interests.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18): Old partners are back in your life again. Look great at all times. (Living well is the best revenge.)

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20): Be patient in the month ahead with hiccups and delays that will occur at work. Expect staff shortages, confused messages, lost paper items and late mail.

CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

					7			
4	9	5			3	1	7	2
		2				5		
5	2							
			5	6	9			
							5	3
		1				6		
7	6	9	4			8	3	1
			3					

Difficulty Level ★★★

6/28

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9.
Tips and program at www.sudoku.com

Answer to previous puzzle

2	6	3	7	1	8	5	4	9
8	1	9	5	4	3	7	2	6
5	4	7	9	2	6	3	8	1
7	3	5	1	8	9	4	6	2
6	8	4	2	3	7	1	9	5
9	2	1	4	6	5	8	3	7
4	9	6	3	7	1	2	5	8
1	5	2	8	9	4	6	7	3
3	7	8	6	5	2	9	1	4

Difficulty Level ★★

BARANGAY captain Andy with the kids

LEARNING with pencil and paper...

...and with special materials

TEACHER Pao and Dom

Montessori for the masses

From page D1

the volunteers just received a little allowance. The tuition the parents pay mainly go to the school's expenses and to the purchase of new materials.

But Pao, who had taken the role as a school principal, persisted, trying to find young educators with a passion for children and a heart for service. She seems to have succeeded with her current batch of teachers—Claire, Donna, Jean, Cha, Karen.

It also took some time to explain their methods to parents who have not been exposed to the Montessori way of teaching.

Holistic approach

"The Montessori method is holistic, it doesn't only pertain to academic," Pao said. "There is a lot of focus on practical life. I think it's important for parents to ask—why do we send our children to school? Is it because it's a tradition, it's a norm in society? We lose focus on the basic reason—to prepare the children for life.

"Parents normally think, we'll send our kids to school so they can find jobs later on. But that's too far ahead in the future. What about teaching them to cope with their present life?"

Montessori schools give a lot of focus on teaching the children independence and responsibility. Lessons allow kids to work as individuals or in small groups and at their own pace.

"You need to teach them how to cope with their present life—from holding a spoon to pouring water," Pao said. "We teach them how to fold clothes, shine shoes, sweep the floor, clean the crumbs, set tables, open and close bottles."

Thus, the need for special school materials.

The method believes in letting the kids gain experience.

"They learn from what they see, hear, smell and touch. It's sensorial," Pao said. "We believe learning is not just paper and pencil. We let them experience life. And when they're ready, that's when we give them books."

Pao also believes the Montessori method helps the kids develop a love for work and school. "The materials are our treasures and the kids know that. They clean them up after they use them."

Model school

When we visited the school, we noticed how enthusiastic kids were about their classes.

In the sharing area, they sang in English and Tagalog, they prayed and recited poems. And when it was individual time, they headed for the shelves and chose the materials they wanted to use. When they were done, they [illegible]turned the materials to th[illegible]nal shelves.

The kids were well-behaved and discipline. Even those who were crying at first soon quieted down when they realized how much fun the class could be.

There are two multilevel classes at BMKL. "Having different kids of different ages in one class teaches kids how to socialize with other people, how to deal with them," Pao said. "In real life, you don't just meet people of the same age. You will deal with people younger and older than you are. That's why we put them together."

Parents who at first didn't understand the method became appreciative when they saw how much their kids loved school.

Pao said she's proud to see her kids grow up. But she says it's only the beginning.

"I still have many dreams," she said, "I want to have a playground for the kids. I also want to start a street education program—street teachers for street children, I want to bring the school to the streets."

Pao said she would like to see other communities offering quality education for their own *barangays*. "BMKL can be a template of that and we can help them. It burdens me to see when a young mind is deprived of learning because of financial inadequacy. Educating our young can help build a better nation," she added.

BMKL is located at Plaza Camerino, Barangay Marilag, Project 4, Quezon City. Call 4395134 or e-mail teacherpao@gmail.com or bmkinderforlit@gmail.com.

What are you doing to change the world? Let us know. E-mail Ls_2bu@inquirer.com.ph.

JOSHUA and Adonis

ARCHITECT Matty and Faith

TEACHER Cha with the kids

BK
BARANGAY MARILAG
KINDERGARTEN
FOR
LITERACY
DREAM come true

A LESSON in opening and closing bottles

HAVING fun while learning

How can you change the world of education?

- If you're a teacher or an education student, volunteer to teach young kids. Your presence is as important as the lessons you will teach.
- If your *barangay* is in need of a good school for kids, ask the people behind BMKL for help.
- Donate your old books and toys to the children of your barangay.
- Share your skills with kids. You can spend weekends teaching kids how to dance, draw, cook, and play musical instruments.

QUEZON CITY LOCATION NOW OPEN!

John Robert Powers

SUMMER PROGRAMS

JUNE-JULY

JOHN ROBERT POWERS HAS A WORKSHOP FOR YOU

PERSONAL STYLE. IMAGE DEVELOPMENT. SPEAKING. ACTING. MODELING.

REGISTRATION IS LIMITED.

Call now! 892 9511 (Makati City) 927 0465 (Quezon City)

Make it happen before your summer ends.
Workshops adapted for students on an international schedule.

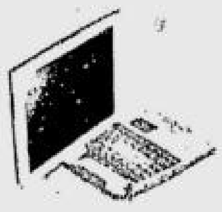
Casmer Building, 195 Salcedo Street,
Legaspi Village, Makati City
Convenient parking nearby

Ground Floor, Cinderella Building,
825 EDSA, Quezon City
Parking on premises

www.johnrobertpowers.com

Acer Service Center
Inventory Sale!
Up to 50% OFF
on selected Acer products only

Ferrari 3400WLMi
BEFORE: 118,000
NOW: 59,000


TravelMate C112TCi
BEFORE: 109,000
NOW: 59,000

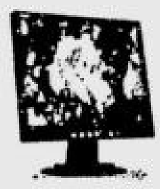
Aspire 1692WLMi
BEFORE: 69,900
NOW: 55,000

TravelMate 4651LCi
BEFORE: 89,900
NOW: 45,000

For image purposes only
Aspire E500
BEFORE: 35,000
NOW: 25,000

For image purposes only
Veriton 7700GX
BEFORE: 48,000
NOW: 28,000

AL1751
BEFORE:16,500
NOW:10,000

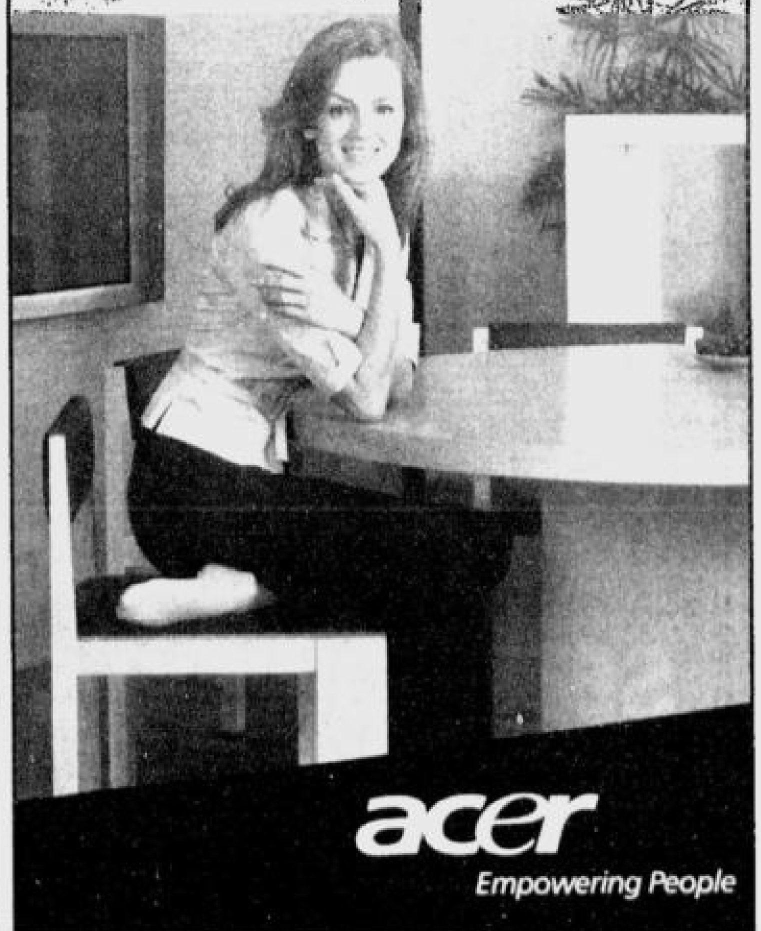

AL1511vsm
BEFORE:11,200
NOW: 7,900

More time...
To enjoy life.

Now is the time to enjoy life to the fullest!
From June 29, 30 and July 1, 2006, here's your chance to purchase selected Acer notebooks, desktops and LCD monitors up to 50% off.

See flyers for details.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. AI-523 Series of 2006.



For more details, please call:
Inquire here
Service: 564-1841
www.acer.com.ph
Acer Philippines, Inc.
Service Center
1651 Paz M. Guazon St. Paco, Manila
Email: service@acer.com.ph

Easy-to-do skincare regimen

AS A CHILD, I NEVER UNDERSTOOD what skin lotions and face creams were for; I simply assumed they were part of the "grownup" rituals I would experience only when I hit my 30s or have three kids, whichever came first.

Imagine what was going through my mind when I felt compelled to purchase my first moisturizer even before my 18th birthday—I seriously feared I was aging prematurely! Because I had extremely dry skin (unlike most people in puberty), my complexion looked dull and rough, and required a little hydrating help.

I've been using my "grownup" potions since.

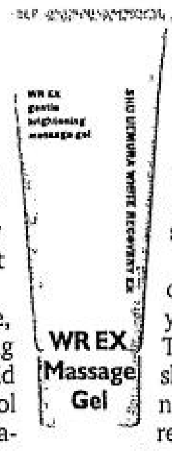
I've since developed my very own rituals to keep my skin soft and smooth from head to toe. With the many skin-polishing options within our reach, keeping the best skin you can achieve is just a few products away.

Lora Gabol

Complexion cure-alls

Cleansers and scrubs. Get smoother skin at the start of your regimen with gentle exfoliating cleansers and face scrubs. Remember that not all cleansing products will do your skin type good. Dry skin works better with physical exfoliants than chemical ones—the latter may irritate and strip skin of its natural moisture.

One of the best ones I've tried is NuSkin's Polishing Skin Refinisher, a non-abrasive exfoliant that sloughs off roughness without harsh scrubbing. Fans of smooth, translucent fair skin will likewise love Shu Uemura White Recovery EX Gentle Brightening Massage Gel, an ingenious "facial in a tube" that works by polishing the skin surface while infusing the skin with brightening ingredients, and kicks up circulation with its mild "massaging" action. This is one product you'd definitely want in your beauty stash because it works double-duty.



WR EX Massage Gel

If your skin is dry and acne-prone, however, you can use a little acne-busting boost with the mild dose of salicylic acid in St. Ives Blemish and Blackhead Control Apricot Scrub. This twist to the classic favorite is perfect for the blackhead-prone T-zone of all skin types, as well.

On the other hand, oil-prone skin will benefit from exfoliating ingredients like salicylic acid or pomegranate extract without aggravating large pores and breakouts. L'Oreal Pure Zone Cleansing Gel is chock-full of salicylic acid and has pore-minimizing properties as well. Neutrogena Deep Clean is another salicylic acid-based cleanser that works, and also improves skin texture by retaining moisture.

Treatments and moisturizers. Most people are confused with these two skin saviors. The main difference? Treatments (also marked "essence") are more concentrated skin potions that primarily target skin problems, more than just hydrate. Moisturizers may have secondary ingredients for specific problems, but are to be used in conjunction with stronger treatments if the need be.

Two of my must-haves from world-renowned skincare label Murad are the Vitalic and Acne ranges. Both address specific needs but deliver smooth results with regular use, and come in synergistically designed sets that are to be used together for stronger and faster results.

I'd recommend the pomegranate-based Vitalic range to boost cell turnover more than anything else—this preparation may be too weak for those who want to battle acne at the same time.

For blemishes, the Acne Kit is highly recommended, and I'd advise users to stock up on the Exfoliating Gel, a smoothening treatment that can be used even under makeup; it never irritates or causes skin to peel.

Relatively good complexions will get even better with vitamin-rich products that up skin health without disrupting skin's balance.

I love Apivita Multivitamin Face Cream, a deliciously scented light moisturizer with Vitamin C from orange extract. It also has the extra protective antioxidant properties of green tea. This is the healthiest thing you can "feed" your skin!

For sleeping beauties who wish to take care of their skin even as they snooze, you'll love Nivea Whitening Night Cream. This spot-busting moisturizer evens out skintone while maximizing your skin's natural repair mechanism during crucial rest hours. The jojoba oil content nourishes skin without clogging pores, keeping breakouts from too-rich formulations at bay.

Professional treatments. For skin polishing, I, of course, only trust my *suki*, Belo Medical Group, with the newest scrubs, peels and facials. Before you head to those mall-chain face salons, think again and go instead for a consultation with a trusted skin clinic. Must-trys on my list are the Jet Peel (which uses a liquid exfoliant instead of crystals) and Spanish Peel. The former is a refreshing alternative to the usual microdermabrasion, the latter an amazing solution to deep acne scars and discoloration.

Nivea, L'Oreal, St. Ives, Neutrogena at PCX and other health and beauty stores; Shu Uemura at Rustan's; Murad and Apivita at Essenses, Rustan's; NuSkin from accredited dealers in Manila. For Belo Medical Group, call 8177178 or 8179283, or visit www.belomed.com

E-mail the author at lora_gahol@yahoo.com

Deal with your bills in one shot
with BILLS 2 PAY

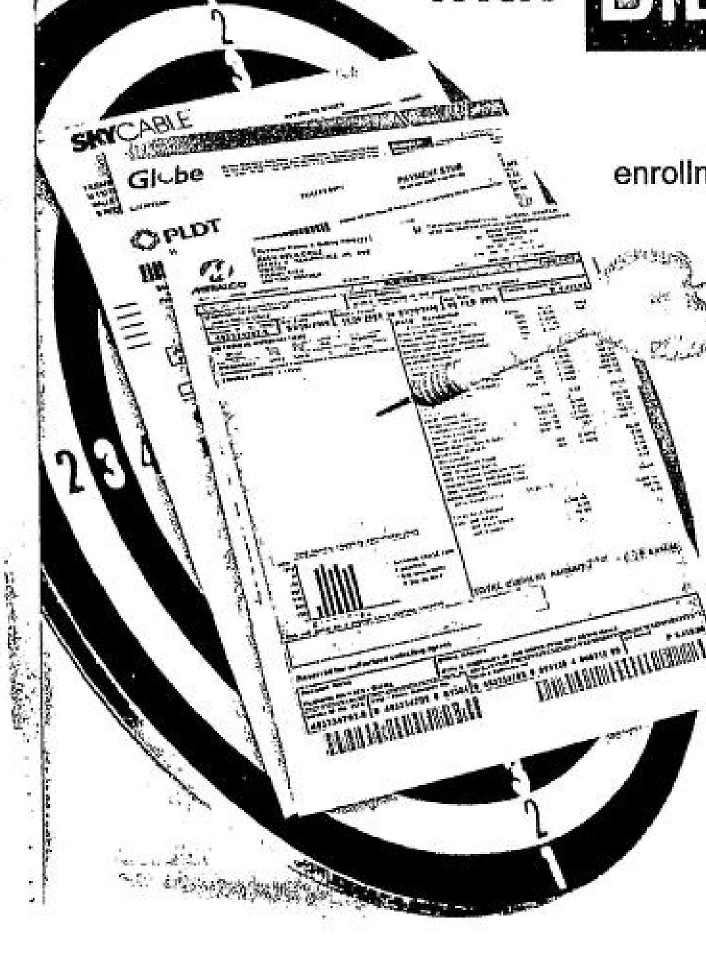
Simply fill out the BILLS2PAY enrollment form from any Metrobank branch and fax to 8-700-927.

PHILIPPINE AXA LIFE (For new policy holders only)
PLDT Touching Lives
MERALCO
GLOBE TELECOM
SKYCABLE
SKYCABLE zpdee broadband internet

For inquiries, call our 24-hour Customer Service Hotline at 8-700-700.

You're in good hands with METROBANK

Issued by Metrobank Card Corporation, a joint venture of METROBANK and ANZ



INSTANTLY GO
FROM 384 kbps TO 512 kbps
FOR FREE!

GLOBE BROADBAND.
SETTING NEW STANDARDS IN CONNECTION SPEED.

By July 31, 2006, Globe Broadband Express subscribers will enjoy faster connection, from 384 kbps to 512 kbps for free.
Explore Silver and Explore Gold subscribers may visit any Globelines Payments & Services center or call the hotline to inquire about their speed upgrades.
Hotline Numbers (02) 919-8888* for Luzon, (032) 410-8888* for Visayas and Mindanao, or 171 Toll-free from any Globelines landline or payphone.

Subscribers will be upgraded in phases depending on the network availability in their respective areas.
*Standard NDD rates may apply to calls made from other carriers.

Globe BROADBAND
Enriching real lives in real time.
www.globelines.com.ph